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Kirkpatrick

KIRKPATRICK'S

RELIGIOUS ORDERS,

&c. &c.

IN NORWICH.

HISTORY

OF THE

RELIGIOUS ORDERS

AND

COMMUNITIES,

AND OF THE

HOSPITALS AND CASTLE, OF NORWICH;

BY

MR. JOHN KIRKPATRICK,

Treasurer of the Great Hospital:

WRITTEN ABOUT THE YEAR 1725.

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PREFACE.

THE Manuscript which has supplied the materials for the following pages is a quarto volume of two hundred and fifty-eight folios; the first sixty devoted to notes upon the Castle at Norwich, the remainder to an account of the Religious Orders and Houses, and the Hospitals of the City. It is altogether in the hand-writing of its author, MR. JOHN KIRKPATRICK, by whom it was bequeathed, with many others, to the Norwich Corporation. No portion, however, of that bequest, which was neither unimportant in quantity or in quality, remains at present in the hands of the legatees. Indeed, none is even known to be in existence, except the volume before us;* and this is now the property of the representatives of the late Mr. William Herring of Hethersett, whose father purchased it many years ago of a bookseller. He himself lent it to the editor, with the

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* Perhaps from this sweeping assertion should also be excepted a certain quantity of the "small pieces of paper containing notes of the tenure of each house in Norwich," (*see p.* XI); but on this subject the editor is not fully informed; and he has reason to fear that, if such do exist, they are so scattered and injured by waste or neglect, as to be no longer applicable to any useful purpose.

declared wish that it should be published—a wish which the well-known liberality of Mr. Hudson Gurney, and his laudable desire to perpetuate the knowledge of the antiquities of his native city, has at length caused to be carried into effect. To accomplish such an object in the most satisfactory manner, it was considered desirable that the work should be printed precisely as left by the author; and this has accordingly been done, without even an attempt to add to the matter, or to correct any inaccuracies in spelling or language, or to subjoin a note by way of explanation or emendation.

Mr. Kirkpatrick was one of the most able, laborious, learned, and useful antiquaries whom the county has produced. He was especially an indefatigable searcher into local antiquities; and, had his life been spared to the term allotted by the holy Psalmist to man, it were impossible to say how much of what is now irretrievably lost to us might have been rescued from oblivion. He had accumulated copious materials; but his early death prevented him from digesting and publishing them. Better far had he contented himself with amassing less, and turning what he had got to account: a lesson hard to learn, but most important to be borne in mind and acted upon. As it was, he was obliged to leave the fulfilment of his task to others; taking all possible care for the safety of his collections, and not doubting but that those who came after him, seeing what was prepared for their hands, would cheerfully undertake the office—perhaps with a praiseworthy zeal for communicating information; perhaps with the not less natural desire of

building their own fame upon the labours of their predecessors. But in his expectations he was sadly mistaken, and has but furnished an additional proof how difficult it is for any one to enter completely into the objects and ideas of another, and consequently how imperative it is upon us all, ourselves to finish the web we have begun, if we wish to see it come perfect and uniform from the loom.

It was Mr. Kirkpatrick's good fortune to be the contemporary of Blomefield, the historian of Norfolk; of Peter le Neve, Norroy King at Arms; and of "honest Tom Martin," the author of the *History of Thetford*. With all of these he lived in habits of friendship. The first of them, in his second volume, p. 756, bears the following testimony to his merits:—"Mr. Kirkpatrick was a most laborious antiquary, and made great collections for the city of Norwich, of which he published a large Prospect. He likewise gave a gilt silver cup for the mayor's use. In pursuing his studies, he worked with Peter le Neve, Norroy; and as they were very intimate, they mutually exchanged their collections for this place; Mr. Kirkpatrick giving all his draughts to Mr. Le Neve, and Mr. Le Neve giving his to Mr. Kirkpatrick. To the labours of both these gentlemen I am exceedingly obliged; and did I not acknowledge my obligations in this public manner, I should inwardly condemn myself as guilty of the highest ingratitude." Mr. Blomefield in the preceding page had recorded the death of his friend, and his being buried in St. Helen's church, Norwich. The tomb, a black marble monument,

by the steps of the altar, bears the following ARMS and INSCRIPTION :—

"*Argent,* a saltier, and on a chief *azure,* three woolpacks of the field.

CREST, a hand, holding a dagger, proper.

MOTTO, *I make sure.*

"Here resteth, in hopes of a joyful resurrection, the body of JOHN KIRKPATRICK of this city, Merchant, and Treasurer to this Hospital. He was a man of a sound judgment, good understanding, and extensive knowledge; industrious in his own business, and indefatigable in that of the Corporation, in which he was constantly employed. He died very much lamented by all that knew him, on the 20th day of August, in the year of our Lord 1728, aged 42."

The farther particulars touching Mr. Kirkpatrick that the editor has found it possible at this period to collect, are few, and principally extracted from a letter written by the late Mr. Woodward, himself no less persevering and successful an inquirer in the same line. His father was a native of the village of Closeburn in Dumfries-shire, a fact recorded by the son in his will, and farther proved by the arms just mentioned upon his tomb, which are those of the baronet's family of Kirkpatrick, of Closeburn. From Scotland he removed to Norwich, where he resided in the parish of St. Stephen. His son, John, was apprenticed in that of St. Clement, and subsequently established himself in business as a linen-merchant in St. Andrew's, in premises opposite Bridewell Alley. He was here in partnership with Mr. John Custance, who was mayor in 1726, and was the founder of the present family of that name at Weston. In the year of his partner's mayoralty, Mr. Kirkpatrick was

appointed Treasurer of the Great Hospital in St. Helen's—an office which his premature decease allowed him to occupy only for two years. He married the youngest daughter of Mr. John Harvey, great-grandfather of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Harvey, of Thorpe Lodge, where his portrait was preserved during the life-time of that gentleman. It has since been engraved in the very interesting series of portraits of the more eminent inhabitants of Norfolk, of whom no likenesses have yet appeared; a work now in the course of publication, under the superintendence of Mr. Ewing. With such, Kirkpatrick is deservedly associated. He died childless. Of his family nothing more is known, than that he had a brother of the name of Thomas, who is mentioned by Blomefield as being Chamberlain of Norwich at the time he wrote. The account-books of the Corporation contain several entries in reference to both the one and the other, but not of sufficient interest to warrant the quoting of them at length. Of the latter, they show that he was elected chamberlain with a salary of thirty pounds per annum, in the room of Matthew King, in 1732; that in the same year the freedom of the city was conferred upon him; and that twelve years subsequently he was removed from his office, by reason of irregularity in his accounts. To the antiquary their testimony is invariably honorable; the most frequent notices being votes of money for the services he had rendered in adjusting the different accounts of the city.

As concerns the manuscript, more immediately the object before us, the following extract from Mr. Kirkpatrick's Will, will place, in the clearest point of view, his wishes and intentions regarding it, as well as regarding his other

papers of a similar description:—"I give to my brother, Thomas Kirkpatrick, all my manuscripts, books, and papers, (which I have with no small pains and expense collected and purchased) relating to the History of Norwich, to enjoy the same during his natural life. And, after his death, I give them all to the mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty of the said city, to be kept in the city treasury, in the Guild-Hall there; as well for their use and service on occasion, as that some citizen hereafter, being a skilful antiquary, may from the same have an opportunity of completing and publishing the said history, or such part of it as my said brother shall not publish.—I farther give to the mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty aforesaid, all my ancient manuscripts, and ancient coins of silver and brass, to be deposited in the library of the New Hall.—Also, all my printed books in the Anglo-Saxon language, and all such of my books as were printed before the year of our Lord 1660 and are not already in the said library; together with Montfaucon's *Antiquities*, and Madox's *Firma Burgi* lately printed.—And I will and desire that all these things be kept there, for the same purposes as the other books in the said library are and shall be appointed by the said corporation."

Of the manuscripts referred to in the will, which bears date July 17, 1729, and is in Mr. Kirkpatrick's own handwriting, the following were safe in the custody of the corporation, about thirty years ago, when Mr. De Hague held the office of town-clerk. They have now disappeared, as mentioned above, with the exception of the volume here

printed (No. 3), and of a portion of the papers included under the last number.

No. 1. A thick folio volume of the Early History and Jurisdiction of the City; date 1720.

2. A similar folio volume; being an account of the Military State of the City—its walls, towers, ponds, pits, wells, pumps, &c.; date 1722.

3. A thick quarto.

4. Several large bundles, foolscap folio;—Annals of Norwich.

5. A fasciculus, foolscap folio;—Origin of Charities, and Wills relating thereto, in each parish.

6. Memorandum-Books of Monuments.

7. Ditto of Merchants' Marks.

8. Ditto of Plans of Churches.

9. Paper, containing Drawings of the City Gates and a Plan of Norwich.—This is said to have been in the possession of the Friars' Society.

10. Drawings of all the Churches.—These Mr. Woodward has seen in the possession of Mr. William Matthews, Mr. De Hague's clerk.

11. An immense number of small pieces of paper, containing notes of the tenure of each house in Norwich.

In turning from the author to his subject-matter, it needs scarcely be mentioned that the points here selected by Mr. Kirkpatrick have already been described in the *History of Norfolk*, or that, as that portion of his work was completed and published by Mr. Blomefield himself, they are there treated of with knowledge and judgment. But his notices of them are necessarily scanty: the materials before him were too comprehensive and varied, to allow of his dwelling upon any particular one in its full

details. And yet both the first and the last deserve to be thus handled; and they are so in the present work, which, in reference to the topography of a County or a Hundred, may be regarded as the monograph of a botanist—describing the Lily or the Rose, with its many species and varieties, and the peculiarities of each—as compared with the *Species Plantarum* or the *Flora Britannica*. In the part devoted to the *Religious Communities*, our author gives an account of the establishment at Norwich of the four principal orders of Mendicant Friars, the Minors, the Augustins, the Dominicans, and the Carmelites; of the foundation of their monasteries and churches, their guilds and schools, and other dependencies; of the continual increase of their lands and possessions; of the benefactions they received; of the different modes whereby individuals of importance became connected with them; and of the eagerness shown by wealth and power to secure interment within their precincts. He also points out the widely-extended influence obtained by means of their Letters of Confraternity; and, he, on the other hand, draws in strong colors the reverse of the picture, when the wisdom of the Almighty, through the agency of human pride and violence, and perversity and lust, annihilated at a blow the mighty fabric. Their churches fell, and their lands were sold, and their property confiscated, and the eager hand of unsparing rapine was every where extended against them. Yet still the popish services and vestments and sacred vessels lingered; and the fires in Smithfield, kindled by the bigotry of Mary, for a while relumed the ancient rites, till "the Gospel light that first had dawned from Boleyn's eyes,"

was at length diffused over the nation, under the sceptre of her successor.

In speaking of the *Norwich Hospitals*, Mr. Kirkpatrick confines himself to two, those of Hildebrond and St. Paul, both early establishments, and both suppressed at the Reformation. The latter, called also Norman's Spital, was founded at the beginning of the twelfth century, while Eborard held the see of Norwich; and among its numerous charters it could boast of five, granted by English Kings—Henry the first and second, Stephen, John, and Edward the first. Its possessions in the county were considerable. In the seventeenth year of Queen Elizabeth, a part of it was converted into "a bridewell and house of correction for sturdy beggars, who were therein set to work, to the great benefit of the commonwealth;" and in 1631 the whole was leased to one Robert Brooke, with a reservation, however, of so much of its antient character, that "he was obliged to take in and lodge for one night, in a convenient room within some part of the premises, all and every such wayfaring person and persons as should be sent unto the said house by the mayor for the time being."

In the matter of the *Castle*, Mr. Kirkpatrick has brought together whatever could be traced of its history: he describes it as it existed in his time: he enters at length into the castle-guard services, particularly those due from the Abbeys of Ely, of Bury St. Edmund, and of St. Bennet in the Holm: he enumerates the franchises enjoyed in antient times by the inhabitants within the liberty of the castle, called the castle-fee; and he concludes with a description of the shire-house and ditches, and with a list of

the wardens and constables, commencing with the reign of Henry the third, and ending with that of James the first.

From the foregoing brief abstract of the principal contents of this volume, it will be apparent that the author embraces a wide field, capable of yielding much of instruction and interest to the historian and the antiquary, but not altogether attractive to the general reader. The latter, however, may not be displeased to be told, that he will every where meet with illustrations of antient usages and manners; that by the catalogue of the library of an eminent monastery he may draw a comparison between both the quantity and quality of the books in such establishments, and those in the residence of a gentleman of the present day; that in the details of the care and expense bestowed upon the decorating of the outsides of the houses with tapestry on public occasions, he may trace the use of the irons that will often strike his eye in the front of old buildings; and that from the literal version of the Letter of Confraternity, he may form an idea of the necessity of the Reformation; the sale of these, whereby the friars parcelled out a portion of their own merits to the purchasers, being among their most effectual modes of raising money, while the demand for them was so great that they habitually carried them in their pockets, "ready cut and dried," except only as to the name of the future possessor. He will probably be surprised to find the little real reverence paid to the emblem of our salvation, when he reads, how, on one occasion, "a crucifix was riven to blocks, to help to heat the plumber's irons for mending the church roof:" he will meet with various allusions to the importance of the village

of Ormesby, its four churches and royal hall, all passed "sub silentio" by Blomefield; and, though last not least, he will acknowledge with pleasure the extensive assistance to be derived towards heraldic, and more particularly genealogical, inquiries, by the lists of individuals who have been buried within the walls of the convents, or have made them the objects of their charity.

For all this, and much more, it is to be hoped that thanks may be considered to be due to Mr. Kirkpatrick for his labor in the compilation; and the editor would fain flatter himself that, in thus preparing it for the public, he has not undertaken a useless or unprofitable task.

DAWSON TURNER.

YARMOUTH, 14*th March*, 1845.

OF THE

RELIGIOUS HOUSES

AND

RELIGIOUS ORDERS

IN NORWICH.

THERE were in England formerly (as now in Popish countries) several sorts of orders of persons called Religious, because they pretended to be devoted to continence and the service of God, and to have separated themselves from all worldly pleasures and affairs.

Isidore, in his second book *de Ecclesiasticis Officiis*, cap. 15, distributes the monks into six sorts, of which he commends three and explodes the rest: "among the former," saith he, "the first sort is of *Cœnobitæ*, *who dwell in Monasteries*, living in common after the manner of those at Jerusalem, who, at the times of the apostles, having sold all their possessions, gave all to the poor, and dwelt in the communion of a holy life; whence monasteries had their original."

The second sort is of *Hermits*, who, retiring far from men, are related to follow and inhabit desert places and desolate wildernesses, in imitation of Elias, John the Baptist, &c.

The third sort is of the *Anchorites*, who, being become perfect by a monastical conversation, shut themselves up in cells, far remote from the sight of men; giving access to no man, but living only in divine contemplation. But these are chosen to this contemplation, after, upon examination, they have been found approved in all the disciplines of a monastery for thirty years.

And from this shutting up, the Anchorites are also called Recluses. *(Spelm. Gloss. sub verbo inclusus.)*

About the beginning of the thirteenth century, many new Orders of Religious sprang up, and speedily spread themselves throughout Europe: these were named *Friars*, because they called one another *Fratres*, or brethren, which, in French, is *Frères*, and thence came our English word *Friars*.

I shall take notice of such of them only as came and settled in Norwich. And, first, of the four principal orders of Friars: namely, the Black Friars, the Grey Friars, the White Friars, and the Austin Friars. All these were styled *Fratres mendicantes*, or *begging Friars*, because they had no revenues, but went about the country and cities to beg. In the statute of 4 Henry IV., they are reckoned in this order:—namely, 1, Menours, or Grey Friars; 2, Augustines; 3, Preachers, or Black Friars; and 4, Carmelites, or White Friars.

THE BLACK FRIARS.

John Bale relates that, A.D. 1204, or, as others say, 1197, the Dominicans, a bloody kind of Monks, now first sprang up, and that Dominick their founder, preached the cross against the Albigenses, (who were called Hereticks), and the Papists slew one hundred thousand of them. *(Bale, Script. Cent.* 3, 57; 3, 67; *et* 4, 20.) Or, according to the Popish

account of the matter, A. D. 1203, St. Dominick, a Spaniard, with twelve brethren, his companions, founded the Order of the Preachers or Black Friars; which being divinely instituted, he also (says the story) received the holy habit from the glorious Mother of God. At the command of Pope Innocent the third, he conquered, (*compescuit*) with wonderful power and speed, the heresy lately arisen at Tholouse. At length, A. D. 1223, he died at Bononia, a city of Italy; and afterwards Pope Gregory the ninth, having heard of his miracles, &c., added him to the number of holy confessors (that is, made a saint of him.)

A.D. 1218. The Order of the Preachers, founded, as just stated, by St. Dominick, and instituted under the rule of St.Austin, as a new and most splendid sun among the thickest clouds of sinners, was this year, after many oppositions from bad men, at length confirmed by Pope Honorius the third, after a vision, in the first year of his popedom, in which he saw Dominick with a great multitude of Friars, in the Lateran church, all supporting it with their shoulders, as it seemed ready to fall. He therefore confirmed the said Order, and ordered it to hold the first place amongst the Mendicants. This Order, therefore, (proceeds the mendicant historian) flowing, as a most rapid river, from Austin, our father, truly a lucid fountain of paradise, we may most fitly compare to the river Tigris. For this Tigris, according to Josephus, is called Dilach, which signifies acute, because it is accounted the swiftest and most impetuous; and so this Order is accounted always among the other Orders to be the most impetuous and boldest against hereticks, who are by all means to be extirpated, says my author, an Austin Friar, who calls himself reverendissimus pater Jacobus Philippus Bergamensis, Ordinis Heremitarum, in his *Supplementum Supplementi Cronicarum ab exordio mundi usque ad* 1502, folio.

But, in the famous Book of Lies, called the *Aurea Legenda*, or *Golden Legends*, compiled by James de Voragine, a Black Friar, printed at Lyons, A. D. 1514, (folios 79, 80, and 81) we have the legend of this Dominick, which tells us that, when his mother was with child of him, she dreamed that she bore a whelp in her womb, who carried a burning torch in its mouth, and that, being come out, it set fire to the whole frame of the world. And that a certain matron, who was his godmother, thought she saw an exceedingly bright star in the forehead of this child, which made the whole world light. Being grown up to man's estate, he became a great preacher against hereticks. And once, on a certain time, he put his authorities against hereticks in writing, and gave the schedule of them to a certain heretick, that he might deliberate upon the things objected against them. The same night, the party being met at a fire, this man produced the schedule which he had received; whereupon his companions said they would have him cast it into the fire, and if it should happen to burn, then their faith (or perfidy rather) was true; but if it could not be burnt, they would teach the true faith of the Roman church. Whereupon, the schedule is cast into the fire, which having lain there a little, it sprung presently out of the fire unburnt. All were amazed; but one hardier than the rest says, "Cast it in again, and we shall be more fully satisfied of the truth." 'Tis cast in again, and again leaps out unburnt. Again he says, "cast it in the third time:" it was done, and again sprung out safe.* But the hereticks remained still in their hardness, and bound themselves by oath not to publish the matter; but it seems one of them did.

* This great Miracle was represented on the common Seal of our Black Friars of Norwich. (The Seal is engraved in *Blomefield's History of Norfolk.*)

Afterwards, they tell us that Dominick, being at Rome in the church of St. Peter, as he was praying for the love of his Order, he saw the glorious princes of the apostles, Peter and Paul, coming towards him; whereof the first, namely, Peter, (to be sure) seemed to give him a staff, and Paul a book, saying, "Go, preach, because you are chosen by God to this ministry;" and, in a moment, he thought he saw his sons dispersed throughout the world, going by two and two. Also, that Dominick, being at prayer another night, saw Christ coming in the air with three lances to destroy the world; but that his mother came, ran hastily to him, and asked him what he would do, and fell at his feet, and expostulated the matter, and at last told him that she had a servant that could subdue the world to him; and that she would give him a second also, who should faithfully labor with him. Hereupon, Christ desiring to see these brave servants, she presented Dominick first, and then Francis. Christ approved them both; and, next day, Dominick fell in with Francis the first time, whom he knew again very well to be the man he saw in the vision; and their hearts were as one ever after, &c. Many other strange things are related; as of his casting a devil out of a novice, down whose throat the fiend had cunningly slipped along with a little wine, which the poor fellow had happened to drink without first making the sign of the cross on the cup. How a certain man, purposing to enter into this Order, was first taken with a dangerous fever; whereupon, Dominick praying to the Virgin Mary for him, the good lady came in person with two beautiful damsels to the sick man, anointed him, and brought him the habit of the Order. And that Dominick also saw this in a vision; and going in the morning to visit the sick man, found him restored to health. And, the

third day after, the good lady came again and anointed him to so good a purpose, that not only the heat of the fever but the burning of concupiscence was so extinguished in him, that he had never the least motion of lust in him afterwards. But I cannot here recite all the miracles which they say he wrought; such as raising the dead to life, forcing the devil to depart visibly out of people, his discourses with the devil, how Jesus and his mother drew him up to heaven on a white ladder after his decease, and of many miracles wrought by him after death. But these are so many and such palpable lies, that were it not to let Protestants see from what sort of a religion—a religion founded on lies and gross errors—they are delivered by their freedom from the Popish yoke, every wise man would with scorn pass them over as fooleries not worthy to blot paper with the mention of any of them.

A. D. 1198, Innocent the third was made Pope, by whose favour, saith Matthew Paris, there arose in Italy a new kind of preachers, who would be called *Jacobites*, because they began to imitate the life of the Apostles in diet and garments. They were in a short time multiplied throughout the world, by reason of their spontaneous poverty: residing by tens and sevens in capital cities, they took no care for, nor reserved any thing till, the morrow. They came first into England A. D. 1121, as Leland has noted; or A. D. 1124, according to Bale.

A. D. 1226, these Friars Preachers came first to inhabit in Norwich. About A. D. 1253, came forth, on the part of the Friars Preachers, a book, intituled *Evangelium Æternum, or the Eternal Gospel;* concerning which, in a book written against the said gospel by four *Magistri*, (Doctors of Paris) it is said, that some labour to change the gospel of Christ into another gospel, which

they say is more perfect, better, and of greater worth, and they call it the *Eternal Gospel*, or the *Gospel of the Holy Ghost*, which being come, (as they say) the gospel of Christ shall be made void. The scandals and hatreds between the Magistri just mentioned and the Friars Preachers increasing, some of the most famous Doctors were chosen to go to the Pope, for the tranquillity of the university of Paris and for restoring the faith. And the Preachers also sent presently their messengers thither against the university. But the Pope, having heard the complaints of both parties, commanded that the said new book, which they called the *Eternal Gospel*, should be secretly burnt.*

A. D. 1259. The limits were settled between the Friars of Norwich and the Friars of Dunwich, whereby the Norwich Friars had all the county of Norfolk to beg in, &c., by the following instrument:

"MEMEMORANDUM—That, in the year one thousand two hundred and fifty-nine, the fourth of the ides of January, the Friars of Norwich and of Dunwich met together at Herringfleet, in the house of the canons of St. Olave, (namely, such of them as were elected by their convents, *ad limitandum*) to settle the limits between the aforesaid convents, whose names were these:—on the part of the convent of Norwich, Friar Robert de Hecham, Friar Robert de Bristune; on the part of the convent of Dunwich, Friar Geffrey de Walsingham, Friar William of Saint Martin. Which said friars there treated about making the limitation; but, whereas they could not come to an agreement, there was also present Friar William de Notingham, at that time the Lector (or Reader) of Norwich, upon whom the said limiters had unanimously pitched, that, to which part he

* Usser, *de Christianarum Ecclesiarum successione et statu*, p. 139–141.

should consent, the same, (namely, their proposal) according to the Acts of the Chapter of Glocester, held in the year one thousand two hundred and fifty-seven, should stand in force. And when the said friar, William de Notingham, had diligently considered the reasons of each party, he gave his assent to the party of the Dunwich *(electores)* deputies: namely, that the *(aqua)* river which divides Norfolk from Suffolk should divide the limitation of the Norwich Friars from the limitation of the Dunwich Friars, as it hitherto hath divided. But that, nevertheless, the Friars of Dunwich should have the parishes of Mendham and of Ressewrde,* as well in Norfolk as in Suffolk, both in spirituals and temporals. In testimony of which thing, for perpetual memory, the prior and convent of Dunwich have caused this present writing to be confirmed by their conventual seal."†

It seems therefore that at this time there were no other monasteries of the Friars Preachers in the diocese of Norwich but the two above mentioned. And it being their custom that limits should be settled in all places, determining how much of the country each monastery should have for its friars to preach in and beg in, &c., these travelling friars were hence called *Limitours*, as we see in Chaucer, in the *Sompner's Tale*.

A. D., 1262. The Black Friars in England were employed in a notable service by Pope Urban the fourth, namely, to preach a crusade here for relief of the Holy Land, then newly overrun by the Tartars. I have seen in the Guildhall of Norwich, among the records belonging to the Black Friars, an exemplification which was under the seal of Friar Robert, the provincial Prior, of twelve

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* So in the original. I have no idea what parish is meant.—*Editor.*

† *Ex Autogr. in Guildhall, Norvici, inter cartas Fratrum Prædicatorum.*

bulls of the said Pope, directed to the Prior Provincial of the Friars Preachers in England, concerning this business, which is dated at Oxford on Sexagesima Sunday, A.D. 1262; but the seal is lost, and the instrument much impaired by wet. It may not be amiss to insert here an abstract of the said bulls, to show the subtle arts then practised for picking the people's money out of their pockets:—In the first bull, which is dated the fourteenth of the kalends of May, the Pope, having set forth the miserable state of the Holy Land, requires the said Prior, by the Friars of his order, diligently to represent the same to the people of England and Scotland, and to press them to take upon them the sign of the cross, and hasten to the relief of the said land; granting to all such persons, and to those who should assist with their purses, all that pardon of their sins, privilege, and immunity, which in a general council was granted to such as should go to the Holy Land for its defence. Granting also to the said Prior and his Friars authority to assemble the clergy and people of the places where they should preach this matter, who were to come processionally to such preachments. And also a power of granting forty or a hundred days of pardon to those people who came to them.

Four other bulls are dated on the ides of May. By one of these, the Pope granted them power to collect money for the said purpose, notwithstanding the indulgence, whereby it had been formerly granted to the said Friars that they should not collect any money, nor in any manner meddle with it.

By another, he authorized them to absolve all persons who had taken, or should take, the sign of the cross on them, from their vows, if, by infirmity or debility of body, they were unable to fight or take the voyage to the Holy

Land; willing them nevertheless to deposit the money received for the redemption of such vows in some safe place, &c.

Another, empowering them to compel, by ecclesiastical censure, all such persons as had and detained any legacies which were given for the aid of the said land, to pay the said legacies to the Prior Provincial, who was to deposit them in some safe place under testimony, and to give the Pope a true account of what, how much, and of whom collected.

By the fourth, the Pope grants to all and singular persons labouring about this business, all that pardon of their sins, privilege, and immunity which were granted to those who should succour the Holy Land.

By another bull, dated the twelfth of the kalends of June, the Pope takes all those, who had or should take upon them the cross for aid of the Holy Land, under the protection of himself and his apostolical see; requiring the said Prior not to suffer them to be molested by any persons, but to restrain all such molesters by ecclesiastical censure, without allowing any appeal.

And, by another of the same date, the Pope grants to the said Friars a power of absolving, *pro hâc vice*, according to the form of the church, all those who, for laying violent hands on religious persons, and for burning of churches and other religious places, &c., were under the sentence of excommunication; so that they satisfied the persons injured for the damages. And of dispensing with clerks, secular and regular, as to their irregularity, who, having been unmindful of the sentences or ignorant of the law, had *(se immiscuere divinis)* joined in divine service with such persons as were under said sentences. Provided they paid for the aid of the Holy Land so much

as they must have expended in going to the Apostolical See, in tarrying there, and in returning home again. By another bull, dated the tenth of the kalends of June, he granted power to the said Friars, that, to all persons truly penitent and confessed, who of their goods should contribute for the aid of the Holy Land, competently, according to the Friars' discretion, they should give the indulgence which had been granted in a general council to those who succoured the said land.

By another, dated ..... June, the said Pope commanded the Friars to warn and induce all the earls, dukes, barons, and all others of the clergy and laity of England, who had formerly taken, or should take on them, the sign of the cross for the aid of the Holy Land, to get themselves ready, so that, upon his next mandate, they should go personally for the aid of the said land.

By another bull, of the third of the kalends of June, the Pope, willing that all those who were or should be signed with the cross in England for the aid of the Holy Land, should enjoy the privileges granted them by the Apostolical See, commanded that none of them, although required by letters of the said See, should be sued in any court out of the diocese where they and their goods were. Except such letters, to be obtained for future, should make full mention of these presents; but that they should exhibit justice to the complainants before their own ordinary.

Another bull, of the kalends of June, requires the said Friars to collect all monies for the redemption of the vows of those who had taken the sign of the cross on them, and were absolved by those deputed for it by the Apostolical See; also, all legacies and other monies, in any manner arising in England towards the said aid; and to lay it up in some safe place under testimony, and write the Pope an account of it. And gives them a power to

compel all contradicters by ecclesiastical censure, without appeal. And, lastly, by a bull of the tenth of the kalends of July, the said Pope granted to these Friars a power of transmuting all vows of pilgrimages and other such like vows, of those who should take the sign of the cross upon them for the aid of the said land, (the vow of religion and chastity only excepted) into such vow of the cross.

Note.—All the bulls before mentioned are dated at Viterbium, in the first year of the Pontificate of the said Pope, Urban, which was in the year 1262; and most of them with one *non obstante* or more, namely:—Notwithstanding it has been indulged to any persons by the aforesaid See, that they might not be interdicted, suspended, or excommunicated by letters apostolical, not making full and express mention of an indulgence for this very purpose, *(De Indulto hujus modi.)* And the constitution *de duabus dietis* in the general council,—that was, as I take it, *Ne aliquis ultra duas dietas extra suam Civitatem et Diocesin ad judicium trahatur.* And also, the indulgence of the same See, whereby it is said to be granted to the friars of your order, that of causes which, by apostolical letters, are committed to them, they shall not be bound to take cognizance, unless they make express mention of the said indulgence.—*(De Indulto hujus modi.)*

So that, we see no grant or indulgence procured from the papal See, though with great expense, was of any force longer than the Pope pleased; for he could easily make them void in a new bull, when it served his purpose, (that is, his profit,) with a new *non obstante* to any former privilege.*

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* See Matthew Paris about these matters: he (though a monk) fully lays open the extortions practised in these times here by the papal emissaries, and is very sharp against the boundless avarice of that See.

The following extracts of bulls and privileges granted by several Popes to the said Order of Friars, are taken from old transcripts on paper, in the Guildhall, with this title:—*These be copyse of our Privileggis with us under Leede;* (that is, under the Pope's leaden seals.)

Pope Boniface (the eighth, I suppose) confirmed to the Friars Preachers the privilege of being wholly exempt from the jurisdiction of the prelates, which had been granted them by former Popes, his predecessors, and all other their liberties and immunities. Exempting clearly them and their order from all manner of jurisdiction and power of the prelates and ecclesiastical persons, and declaring them to be subject immediately to the Apostolical See and Roman Pontiff only. And, in like manner, their churches, oratories, houses, and places, which they hold, inhabit, or shall for future hold or inhabit.

By a bull, dated at Rome, at St. Peter's, the sixth of the ides of May, in the second year of his Pontificate, Pope Boniface the ninth, according to the examples of Nicholas the fourth, and Benedict the eleventh, and other his predecessors, wholly exempted and made free the said order, and master, and priors, and friars; also, the sisters, and their houses, monasteries, places, and hospitals, whatsoever, under the care of the said friars and the governors of them, from all dominion, subjection, and power of any ordinaries,* prelates, and ecclesiastical persons; and also

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* There is also a clause of Pope Sixtus, confirming the grants of Pope Martin and Pope Gregory the eleventh, for exempting the said Friars from payment of tithes of those called *papales*. Pope Martin the fifth confirmed this bull of privileges by his bull, dated at Florence, on the ides of July, in the third year of his Pontificate; as did Pope Eugenius the fourth, by his bull, dated at Florence, in the year 1443, on the ides of April, in the tenth year of his Pontificate.

from the payment of *(cujuscunque pedagii, aut alterius generis exactionis)* any tax, custom, or other exaction, and took them into the right and property of St. Peter and the Apostolical See, and under their immediate protection, &c. And granted that, for the future, on any account, they should pay no tithe, or other portion, or yearly rents, (*censum*), or procuration, nor any aid to the legates or nuncios of the said see, or ordinaries of the places, or to any other persons, nor any *(pedagia)* taxes, or tolls, or other exactions, to any kings or other persons, ecclesiastical or secular. Although any person should have bulls to demand such payments of all places and monasteries, exempt and not exempt; unless, perchance, the said bulls should make full and express mention of the said order, and of these presents, word by word; and also of the monasteries, places, and houses, and of the governors of them, &c.; the constitutions of Pope Innocent the fourth, and other constitutions apostolical, the imperial laws, statutes and customs, &c., to the contrary notwithstanding. And all sentences of excommunication, suspension, interdict, &c., against the said friars, and against the tenor of these presents, are decreed to be void, &c.

The houses of friars and other monasteries served frequently for places of refuge to shelter felons from the power of the law; an instance of which, in the year 1565, concerning our Black Friars, &c., take from the following petition:—"To our Lord the King and to his Council, his liege men, the citizens of his city of Norwich, (represent), that, whereas it was presented before Mr. Henry Grene, and his associate justices of the King's Bench at Norwich, *(en estre dreyn passé)* in Easter last past, that three prisoners, who were indicted of diverse felonies, and

imprisoned in the king's prison in the castle of Norwich, had broke the said prison, and escaped unto the friars preachers, in the said city, for which Mr. Thomas Seintomer, then sheriff of Norfolk, who had the custody *(garde)* ward of the said gaol, was punished for the said escapes. And, nevertheless, the said bailliffs and men of the said city were challenged and impeached by the said justices, concerning the custody *(garde)* of the said prisoners; and the said men of the said city, do say, that they never had the custody of any of the said prisoners, being in the said friars, nor were charged to their custody by no minister of the king; nor have they, nor their ancestors, in such case, been ever charged nor impeached concerning such custody; but that the sheriffs for the time being, when such escapes of prisoners out of the castle unto the friars in the said city have happened, the said sheriffs have sometimes *(freschement suy)* quickly followed the said prisoners, and set ward *(garde)* and watch *(veille)* upon them, according to their power, and *(à-la-fortz)* sometimes have re-taken some of the prisoners; and thus did the said Mr. Thomas, and before him, Mr. Johan de Ratlesdene, in his time, &c. And, hereupon, search being made in the rolls, concerning the exaction of the said debt, it was found in the great roll of the thirty-eighth year of king Edward the third, in Norfolk and Suffolk, that fifteen pounds were required of the city of Norwich for the escape of three felons. And now, in the octaves of St. John the Baptist, at the prosecution of the citizens, William de St. Omer and Thomas Waxman, executors of the testament of the aforesaid Thomas de St. Omer; William de Hoo, knight, and Alice, his wife, one of the daughters and heirs of the said Thomas de St. Omer; and Elizabeth de St. Omer, another of his daughters and heirs; and Thomas

ed Brokedisshe, who holds a part of the lands and tenements which were of the said Thomas de St. Omer, were attached to be here, to answer to our Lord the King, in discharge of the aforesaid debt of the above-mentioned fifteen pounds, &c."

NOTE.—That, after several adjournments of the matter, at last the jury found for the city; and the executors of the said late sheriff were charged with the fifteen pounds, and a writ was directed to the sheriffs of Norfolk, signifying so much.—Dated the twenty-fifth of October, in the fiftieth year of the said king.*

In the year 1374, the friars preachers petitioned for and obtained from the Pope, a dispensation for eating of flesh, lest, as they said, they should be burthensome to secular persons.†

That these friars were not in general beloved here in old time, appears from this instance, *viz.*—That amongst the ancient copies of charters and bulls of the Black Friars, there is one of a charter of king Richard the second, directed to all sheriffs, mayors, baillives, &c., wherein he sets forth, that, being informed how some persons of his kingdom, by instigation of the devil, &c., through malice, daily were endeavouring to grieve, damnify, and scandalize the four orders of mendicants, especially the friars preachers and minors, making sinister and ill interpretations of their privileges, and stirring up the people against them, to destroy the houses of the said friars; and that they sometimes tore in pieces their habits on their backs, and sometimes beat them, and ill treated them, &c. &c., therefore the said king commanded that the friars

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* *Introit. Civium*, lib. 1., f. 13.

† *Leland Coll.*, vol. 1., fo. 382. *Ex paralipomen. ab auctore Eulogii.*

should be maintained in their privileges, and be amicably treated, as was due to religious men; and that, if any persons were found to do violence against them, &c., such malefactors should be punished according to law.

And that their house and privileges should be protected; and that the said sheriff, &c., should not do, nor suffer to be done, any injury or grievance to any of them; and, if any such thing were done, that they should, without delay, correct and duly reform it.*

OF THE MONASTERIES AND CHURCHES OF THE SAID FRIARS PREACHERS.

I mention the plural number, because these friars had first a church and monastery on the other side of the water; and, afterwards, they removed themselves to this side of the water, where they built another and larger church and monastery.

OF THEIR FIRST HOUSE AND CHURCH.

Their first site was on the north side of the street, formerly called Colegate, now the Black Boys' street, in the parishes of St. George and St. Clement; near the south-west corner of which was anciently a parish church, called the church of St. John the Baptist over the water. This church the said friars obtained for themselves, (they were possessed of it about the year 1250,) and acquired the messuages and grounds adjoining, and there made their domicilium or monastery; and got by degrees the whole large checker, (saving the house at the south-east corner, which belonged to the monastery of St. Faith's, and the church and church-yard of St. Mary the Brent, at the

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* *Transcript. in Guildhall, inter Cart. Fratrum Predicat.*

north-east corner) namely, all the ground lying between the said Black Boys' street south, and Golden Dog lane north, Magdalen street east, and Doughtie's Hospital street west, whereof they purchased latest the messuages which lay next Magdalen street, namely, in the thirteenth, eighteenth, and twenty-eighth year of king Edward the first, after the statute of mortmain, and, as far as I can find, without the king's license; saving for one messuage which they purchased of John de Acle, clerk. Also, they purchased a lane at the south side of Black Boys' street, that they might have passage from their monastery to the river.

But, in the year 1307, they obtained the houses of the *friars de penitentiâ*, on this side the water, to which they removed: hence this was called the *Olde Freres Yerd.* Afterwards, the friars being questioned about their old monastery, and charged with having purchased it after the statute of Mortmain, procured the following inquisition to be made and exemplified under the king's seal, to justify themselves. "Richard, by the grace of God, king of England and France, and lord of Ireland, to all to whom these present letters shall come, greeting. We have inspected a certain inquisition, by our command made before William Berard, our escheator in the county of Norfolk, Henry Skye, one of the bailiffs of our city of Norwich, and Bartholomew Appelyerd, citizen of Norwich, and returned into our chancery in these words:—'An inquisition, taken at Norwich, in the county of Norfolk, before William Berard, escheator of (our) lord the king in the said county, Bartholomew Appelyard, citizen of Norwich, and Henry Skye, one of the bailliffs of the city of Norwich, on the Friday next after the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, in the fourth year of the reign of king Richard

the second after the conquest, by virtue of a certain writ of (our) lord the king to the same escheator, Bartholomew and the bailliff, directed and sworn to this inquisition by the oath of John de Welles, Roger Parker, Nicholas de Eggefeld, John de Beccles, John de Haughele, Thomas Markaunt, John Palmere, William de Lyng, Bartholomew Busshop, Walter de Lakynghithe, Roberte atte Dam, and John Betteson, jurors; who say upon their oath, that the Prior and Friars of the order of the Friars Preachers of Norwich have not purchased to themselves or to their successors, after the publication of the statute made against putting lands and tenements to mortmain, one gardine, or certain place of land, now called the *Olde Freres Yerde*, with its appurtenances, in the city aforesaid, situated near the street called *Colegate*, on the part of the south, together with a certain passage or lane there mentioned in the writ, which extends itself from the said garden or place towards the house of the same friars unto the river, in the city aforesaid; namely, between the tenements of William Gerard and Simon de Almaigne. But they say that one Thomas de Gelham, chivaler, (or knight), Maud, Imena, and Christiana, daughters of Hermen de Totyngton, and other persons unknown, have given and granted to the Prior and Friars Preachers of the aforesaid city the said garden or place of land aforesaid, before the statute for not putting of lands and tenements to mortmain was made; namely, on the Tuesday next after Palm Sunday, in the thirty-eighth year of the reign of king Henry, the son of king John, to have and to hold to the same prior and friars in pure and perpetual alms for ever. And they say, that one Richard de Norwich, chivaler, gave, and by his charter granted, to the said prior and friars the above-said passage, in the city aforesaid; which extends itself from the above-said

place towards the house of the same friars unto the river in the city aforesaid, before the said statute was published; namely, in the fortieth year of the reign of the above-said king Henry, to have and to hold to the same prior and friars for ever, in pure and perpetual alms. In testimony whereof, to this inquisition the above-said jurors have put to their seals. Dated the year, day, and place aforesaid.'

"We, therefore, at the request of Friar Robert de Fretone, now prior of the house of the order of the friars preachers, in the city aforesaid, have thought fit to exemplify the tenor of the said inquisition by these presents. In testimony of which thing, we have caused these our letters patent to be made. Witness myself, at Westminster, the twenty-first day of November, in the fourth year of our reign."*

But it is to be noted that these inquisitions, concerning things done long before they were taken, are not to be depended on for a true account of those things; for, although a part of the said Old Friars' ground might have been granted them in the thirty-eighth year of king Henry the third, as in the above inquisition is set forth, which I cannot contradict, not having seen the deeds of grant of the first parcels of ground which they had here, yet it is certain that the whole was not; for a great part was not granted till some years after the statute of mortmain was made, as before hinted, and as I shall fully show when I come to the survey of Fibriggate or Magdalen street. And also, as to the lane above mentioned, or passage to the river, which by the inquisition is affirmed to have been granted to the friars in the fortieth year of king Henry the third, I find, by the original deeds still

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* *Autograph, in Guildhall, Norwich.*

remaining in the Guildhall, that Richard de Norwich granted to the friars a messuage, abutting on the street north and the river south, in the time of Walter de Schelfangel, custos of Norwich, which was not till the first year of king Edward the first, in the year 1273: this was, that they might have a passage to the river. But further note, that the said friars afterwards exchanged this away with Roger de Penteney, in the year 1290, after the statute of mortmain, for a part of a messuage which lay more eastward, which latter was the *(transitus)* passage or lane which the friars had possession of when the inquisition above mentioned was taken.

And yet the friars made the jury of the inquisition believe that this latter was the same which Richard de Norwich gave them, (which it was not,) and that he gave it them in the fortieth year of king Henry the third, whereas his grant of the first was not till the first year of king Edward the first, as aforesaid.

OF THE SECOND HOUSE AND CHURCH OF THE SAID FRIARS' PREACHERS.

A. D. 1307, the order of the *Friars de Penitentiâ* being suppressed by authority of the Pope, the king, this year, granted their monastery in this city to the Black Friars, by the following charter:—"Edward, by the grace of God, king of England, lord of Ireland, and duke of Aquitaine, to all to whom these present letters shall

* 38 Henry VIII.—Gret parte of the wall on the north side of the *gret gardeyn* fell down. *Comp. Camer.*—This wall was built of exceedingly large bricks; more than twice as large as those now commonly used. Great part of it remains still; and some such bricks are to be found in the ruins of the old wall, which encompassed the top of the Castle-Hill, and in some old houses in the city.

come, greeting: Whereas, we have been informed by the inquisition, which we have caused to be made by our bailliffs of Norwich, that, without doing injury or prejudice to any person, we may give and grant to our beloved in Christ, the Prior and Friars of the Order of Preachers, dwelling in the said city, that place which the Friars of the Order of the Repentance (or Penance) of Jesus Christ, in the same city, were used to inhabit, to have and to hold to the same prior and friars to inhabit, and dwell there for ever. Saving only, that it might be prejudicial to one friar, William de Hoo, of the said Order of Penance, who yet holds and inhabits the said place, and is so broken with age, that he is unable to help himself. And that the same place is held of us in *capite*, by the service of one penny and one halfpenny, to be yearly paid to the farm of the said city. We, forasmuch as this place is more commodious to dwell in than the place in which the said Prior and Friars of the Order of Preachers now inhabit, as we have been informed; and being willing to do the same prior and friars a special favour, and to provide for the state of the same friar, William, have given and granted for us, and our heirs, as much as in us lies, to the same Prior and Friars of the Order of Preachers, the aforesaid place; to have and to hold to them, and their successors, of us and our heirs, by the services thence due and accustomed; to inhabit and dwell there for ever, as aforesaid, as entirely freely and quietly as the said Friars of Penance have before held the same place, without (*occasione*) the questioning or hinderance of us, or our heirs, or of any of our justices, escheators, sheriffs, or other our bailliffs or ministers whatsoever. So, nevertheless, that the same prior and friars shall find (or provide) a reasonable maintenance for the said friar, William de Hoo,

during his whole life, as is fitting for his state. In testimony of which thing, we have caused these our letters patent to be made. Witness myself, at Westminster, the twenty-eighth day of October, in the first year of our reign."*

But, forasmuch as nothing in those days was supposed to stand in force, without bestowing a sum of money at the Pope's court for a confirmation, therefore the Friars procured the following instrument for that purpose:—*("Frater)* Friar, Brother (or monk) Thomas, by the divine compassion, Cardinal, priest of the title of Saint Sabina, to our beloved in Christ, the Prior and Convent of the Friars Preachers of Norwich, greeting, in the Lord. Our most holy Father and Lord, the lord Clement the fifth, by the Divine Providence, Pope, hath lately committed to us, by the oracle of his living voice, a full power of disposing or ordaining, by the apostolical authority, of the church and place which some time belonged to the Friars of the late Order of the Saccites of Norwich, and of conferring or granting them, as to us should seem expedient. We, therefore,—observing that the same church and place, which are near you on the other side, would be very much for your convenience, and being willing, therefore, to grant you a gracious commission for that purpose,—the above-said church and place, with all their rights and appurtenances, do confer and grant to you, and to your Order, by the authority aforesaid, according to the tenor of these presents, and do perpetually appropriate the same to you; willing that, henceforth, you may freely take and obtain and keep the tenure and possession of them, and in the same to build, and absolutely to apply them to your

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* *Pat.* 1, *E.* 2, *ps. pma. Autograph, in Guildhall.*

uses and conveniences, as and when you shall please. In testimony of which thing, we have commanded the present letters to be made, and to be confirmed by the appension of our seal. Given at Avignon, in the year from the nativity of our Lord, 1310; indiction the eighth; on the ninth day of June, in the fifth year of the Pontificate of the aforesaid Lord Pope." *

This grant was afterwards confirmed to them by Pope John, who also granted them licence to retain the church and place, or ground of their old mansion, any constitutions to the contrary notwithstanding, &c., by his bull, dated at Avignon, on the kalends of May, in the first year of his Pontificate.†

The year before this, viz., A. D. 1309, the said friars obtained of king Edward the second, a licence of mortmain for enlarging their new-acquired place; whereby he granted to his beloved in Christ, the Prior and Friars of the Order of Preachers in Norwich, that they might purchase of William But a place of land there, containing sixty-four feet in length, and fifty-seven and a half feet in breadth; and another place, containing eighty-six feet in length, and seventy-four feet in breadth, for enlarging their mansion.‡

And the next year, viz., A. D. 1310, by another charter, he granted them that they might acquire five hundred feet of land in length, and four hundred feet of land in breadth, to them convenient, in his city of Norwich, contiguous to the mansion of the same prior and friars there, either at once, or by parcels, as and when they may most conveniently purchase them of any persons; to have and to hold to them and to their successors for ever, for

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* *Autograph, in Guildhall,*

† *Ex Transcript. Antiq. Chartaceo, in Guildhall, inter Chart. Fratr. Pred.*

‡ *Pat.* 3 *Edward* II., m. 9.

building their church and edifices, and also for enlarging their churchyard and (*clausum*) precinct; the statute for not putting lands to mortmain notwithstanding.*

But, A. D. 1332, a complaint being made to king Edward the third by the citizens, that the aforesaid prior and friars had acquired diverse lands and tenements in the said city, by virtue of his father's grant above mentioned, without having it found by inquisition, thereupon taken and returned into Chancery, that the same might be done without prejudice of the king or others, as the law required; and that they continued still to acquire more, to the prejudice of the king, and to the no small expence of the citizens, and manifest detriment of the said city: the king, therefore, directed his writ to William Trussel, his escheator on this side Trent, whereby, being willing to provide against such prejudices and damages, and to apply a remedy in the premises as was fitting, he commanded him that, for the future, he should by no means permit the same prior and friars to enter into, or hold any lands or tenements in the aforesaid city, without inquisitions to be thereupon taken and returned into his Chancery, and without his licence to be thereupon obtained. And that, if from thenceforth they had acquired in other manner, and entered upon any, that then he should, without delay, take them into the king's hand, and answer the issues of them at the Exchequer. The writ was dated at Waltham Holy Cross, the ninth day of February, in the sixth year of his reign.†

I find no more of this matter till A. D. 1345, when all the new acquisitions which the friars had made, were confirmed to them by the following charter of king

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* *Pat.* 4 *Edward* II., m. 25. † *Per Consilium. Doomsd.*, f. 4.

Edward the third, viz.—"Edward, by the grace of God, king of England and France, and lord of Ireland, to all to whom these present letters shall come, greeting. Know ye that, whereas the lord, king Edward, our father, hath granted," &c., reciting his above-mentioned grant for the five hundred feet of land in length, and four hundred in breadth. Then follows—"And the same prior and friars, by virtue of the grant and licence aforesaid, have acquired in fee, to themselves and successors,—

	FEET OF LAND in length	in breadth
A certain lane in Norwich, of the commonalty of the town of Norwich, containing	169 ...	12
Of Robert le Fevre	40 ...	24
Of Thomas de Boton	131 ...	34
Of Silvestre Sparwe	131 ...	60
Of William But	93 ...	44
Of Andrew de Dallyng	60 ...	22
Of John de Hengham	35 ...	33
Of Adam de Blyklyng	32 ...	20
One Cottage of Juliana, daughter of Adam Beneyt	30 ...	20
Of John But	40 ...	30
Of Sarah, who was the wife of Ralph le Fysshemongher, Alexander de Sparham, and Richard de Heylesdon, Executors of the Testament of the said Ralph	125 ...	30

being all contiguous to the mansion of the same prior and friars, and have entered into them before inquisitions were thereupon made in due form, and returned into the chancery of us or of our said father, which said lane is held of us in *capite*, as in burgage; and the places and cottage aforesaid are not held of us. And as well the said

lane as the said places and cottage aforesaid contain two hundred and forty-eight feet of land in length, and one hundred and forty-six feet of land in breadth; as by the inquisition thereupon by our beloved and faithful John Howard, our escheator in the county of Norfolk, at our command made and returned into our chancery, is found.

"We, willing that the aforesaid grant of our father should take due effect, do pardon to the same prior and friars the transgression in this matter committed, and have granted and given licence for us and our heirs, as much as in us lies, to the same prior and friars, that they may retain the aforesaid lane, cottage, and places, and have them to them and their successors aforesaid for ever, in part of satisfaction of the aforesaid five hundred feet of land in length and four hundred in breadth, as aforesaid; the aforesaid statute notwithstanding. Not being willing that the aforesaid prior and friars, or their successors, or the said commonalty, or their successors, or the before-mentioned Robert, Thomas, Silvester, &c., or their heirs, by reason of the premises, or of the statute aforesaid, should by us, or our heirs, the justices, escheator, sheriffs, or any other our bailliffs or ministers, be in any manner questioned, molested, or grieved; saving, nevertheless, to us, and to the other capital lords of the fees, the services thence due and accustomed. In testimony of which thing, we have caused these our letters patent to be made. Witness myself at the Tower of London, the thirteenth day of June, in the nineteenth year of our reign of England, but of our reign of France, the sixth." *

So that, by these acquisitions, the friars,—as they had done on the other side of the water,—got the whole chequer

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* *Per breve de privato Sigillo. Autograph, in Guildhall.*

of ground into their hands, which abuts on the river north, on the street leading from St. Andrew's church to Tombland south, on the street leading from the said church to Black-Friars' bridge west, and on the street which leads from the street first mentioned past the west end of St. Peter's of Hungate church, and on the houses next the river east. In this large ground they built their church in the midst, from one side of the ground to the other; and, on the north side of *that*, their cloisters; and, next the river-side, their malt-house and brew-house. The ground on the south side of their church they kept void, to serve for a large preaching-yard. The church is extraordinarily large—large enough for the use of ten such monasteries; but the grand reason of that custom of spacious churches for the friars was, that they might have commodious room, to inter in them great numbers of gentry, and other rich persons, who, being persuaded that the having sepulture in these churches tended much to the advantage of their souls after death, usually gave large sums of money to the friars for this favour.

A.D. 1413 or 1414, the first year of king Henry the fifth, a fire broke out in Norwich, which laid in ashes a great part of the city, and the convent of the Friars Preachers; and two of the friars perished in the flames. This happened on the fourth day of May.*

There seems to have been another fire after this, wherein this house suffered much.† Or else they now got a patent, on account of fire aforesaid. After which fire, the

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* *Stow's Hist. and Lib. P. L. N. N. ex Walsingham Hist., p.* 385.

† Vide *Pat.* 27 *Hen.* VI., *p.* 1, m. XVII., *vel.* XVIII., *de domo Fratrum Prædicatorum Norvici, per subitum ignis infortunium miserabilitèr combusto. Coll. D. Tanner Canc.*

church was rebuilt in a more magnificent manner than before, with upper rows of windows on each side of the body of the church, to which Sir Thomas de Erpyngham was a good benefactor, as appears from his arms, which are cut in the stone-work between every two of the said upper windows on the south side. And the steeple was also rebuilt in a very curious and beautiful manner, on which the arms of Sir Simon Felbrygg, which were often to be found on it, showed him a special benefactor to that work.

AN ACCOUNT OF SEVERAL PERSONS WHO WERE BURIED IN THIS CHURCH, EXTRACTED FROM THE REGISTERS OF THEIR WILLS, WHICH ARE OF THE FOLLOWING DATES:

A. D.

1372, John Banham, of Langhale.

1382, William Shattok, Rector of the church of Hackford All-Saints, near Refham.

1394, Thomas Hillde, Vicar of the church of Bawburgh.

1397, Andrew, Chaplain of Cryngleford.

1403, Walter de Bixtone, merchant and citizen of Norwich, in the quire, near the body of Elena, late his wife.

1439, John Parlet, Priest; Robert Corrioll, of Norwich, late of Southelmham; and Sibilla, relict of John Payn, near the bodies of her father and mother.

..... (about the same time) John Tylly, Rector of the church of St. Botolph, in Norwich. He gave to their Convent, ten marks; and to every other Order of Friars, forty shillings.*

1443, Simon Thurton, who gave forty-three shillings and four-pence.

1444, Robert Norwich, Senior, of North Tudenham.

1446, Cecily Caryoll.

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* *Register Doke*, f. 213.

A. D.

1448, William Mayes, of Norwich, willed to be buried in the regular church of the Friars Preachers, of Norwich; and gave eight-pence to the high altar of the parish church of St. George, Muspool.*

1451, Thomas Ingham, the younger, citezeyn and marchaunt, of Norwych.—"I will my body to be beryed in the chyrche of the Frer Prechowrys, in Norwich, on the oon syde of the place in the seyd chyrche, where as my Fadyr chesyth his sepultur."†

1452, Edmund Segeford, citizen and mercer, of Norwich, late dwelling in Salle, willed his body to be buried in the church of the Friars Preachers, in Norwich, in the north part of the same church, within the perclose there, before the altar, which is near the window glazed with the History of the Psalm, *Magnificat*. "Item.—I will have one Friar, a Priest of the said house, with the licence of the Prior of the said Convent, to celebrate at the said altar for my soul, and for the souls of all for whom I am bound, for ten years next after my death. Item.—I bequeath to the said Friar for his salary, every year, five marks. Item.—I bequeath to the said Convent, to the making and working of the tables with the Valaunces, or Selewrys, of the same, upon the altar of the said church, for the future, to be there made and fixed, twenty pounds. Item.—I will have one marble stone, to be placed on my grave, with this clause, wrote in the Latone: —'*Orate pro anima Edmundi Segeford, &c.*' Item.—To Heilewisia, my wife, one hundred

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* *Reg. Aleyn*, f. 15. † *R. Aleyn*, f. 173.

A. D.

pounds, certain tenements, &c. Item.—All my lands and tenements, in Hacford, Whytwell, Wychyngham St. Mary, Higham, &c., to be sold."*

1458, William Stubbe, of Skothowe; and gave to the convent, to the repair of the roofs of their houses, namely, *(Hospicij et Firmarie)* the hall and infirmary, ten marks. Item.—To a Friar of the same convent, to celebrate for his soul for four years, twenty marks, by five marks per annum.†

1458, Reginald Herryessone, of Norwich, habyrdasher, before the blood of the body of Christ, namely, *(coram Sanguine corporis Christi;)*‡ and

..... Katherine Marchale bequeathed to the building of a Reredoce in the said church, twenty shillings.§

..... The Lady Alice, late wife of Sir Roger Harsyck, knight; and bequeathed to the repairs of the new altars in the said church, five marks.‖

1459, Alice Foster, wife of Edmund Foster, hosyer, and bequeathed to the amending of the Library of the the said Friars, thirteen shillings and four-pence.¶

..... The Lady Katherine Felbrigg, late wife of Sir Simon Felbrigg, knight, in the quire of that church, near the body of the said Simon, her husband; and bequeathed to the building of the steeple, twenty pounds.**

1467, John Pagrave, Esq., in the chancell.††

1471, William Lockwode, *alias* Clyvelond, Clerk, in the midst of the quire, at the head of the monument of Sir Simon Felbrigg, knight.§§

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* *R. Aleyn*, f. 13. † *R. Brosyard*, f. 222. ‡ *R. Brosyard*, f. 148.
§ *Id.*, f. 99. ‖ *Id.*, f. 129. ¶ *Regist. Decani Norvici.*
** *R. Brosyard*, f. 185. †† *R. Jekkis*, f. 64. §§ *Id.*, f. 231.

A. D.

1472, Jowet Bumstede, widow of Thomas Bumstede, in the lest partye of the quere: she gave to every Friar-Priest, four-pence; to every other Friar, two-pence; also, forty shillings towards repairs, &c.

1475, John Roberd, of Heygham, near Norwich.

1477, Robert Harpeley, gentilman.

1479, Agnes Cawmbrygg, widow, near the grave of Thomas Ingham, late her husband: she gave five marks.

1497, Alice Worme, widow, by Thomas Worme, late her husband: she gave forty shillings.*

..... Petyr Peterson, of Norwich, hardwareman, by the the grave of Alice, late his wife: he gave to the Prior and Convent, twenty-six shillings and eight-pence. Item.—To every Frere-Priest of the same, beying at his berying, four-pence; and to every Frere-Novys of the same place then there being, two-pence.†

1501, Robert Woderove, citizen of Norwich, in the cloyster, by Mawd, his wife; and Agnes Swill, widow, by the body of her late husband.

..... Ann Drury, relict of Roger Drury, Esq.‡

1502, Dame Jone Blakeney, widowe, at Norwich. "I commend my soul to God, &c., to St. John the Baptist, and to St. Domynyke, &c.; and my body to be buryed in the chapell of our Lady of the Fryer Precheours, in Norwich. To the wiche house of Fryers, I bequeth in the day of my sepulture, for a Pyitans, ten shillings. Item.—To iche Priest in the said house, the same day, four-pence; and to iche Novys, being no Priest, two-pence. Item.—

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* *R. Multone*, f. 67. † *Id.*, f. 55.

‡ *Reg. Popy*, f. 318; *(Coll. D. Tann. Canc.)*

A. D.

I bequeth to the said Fryer Precheours, in my thirtieth day, ten shillings. Item.—For a stone of marbyl to lye upon my grave, twenty-six shillings and eight-pence. Item.—I wille that the Blakke Freers shalle have two chalis of twenty pounds; namely, of the sale of lands, if Thomas Blakeney, my son, should dye without issue. Item.—Twenty marks, for a vestment, if it can be spared."*

1502, Philippe Cursone, "gentilman and aldyrman," of Norwich, willed to be buried in the church of St. Andrew, of Letheringsett. "And I will have a marbyll stone, with my name and armes, layd upon my grave. Item.—I will have sung St. Gregory's Trentall, at the Black Freres, in Norwich, with his other devotions, at the Autier on the right hand in their church, for me, Watys my father, Margarette my mother, Joane late my wyffe, &c. He that sings, to have ten shillings be yer, toward his abite and clothing; and so the next poor Priest and Freer the same, by the space of twenty yeres. Also, I will have my year-day kepyd ther twenty-three or thirty-one years; and I give twelve of the best zewes, and a ramme, and the encrease, to go to the sustentacion of the seyd Preste."†

1503, Austen Boys of Norwich, by the grave of Mary, his wife.

..... Isabella Ronham, of Norwich.

..... Anne Drury, of Norwich, late wife of Roger Drury, Esq., by the grave of John Pagrave, some time

* *Reg. Popy*, f. 315. † *Reg. Spirling*, f. 108; *et Reg. Rix*, f. 384.

A. D.

her husband: she gave to the repairs forty shillings, and six marks to a priest frier.

1503, John Cowtyng of St. Clement's parish, who gave six shillings and eight-pence.

1504, Anne Jeckis, single woman: she gave to the high altar, ten shillings; to every friar two-pence; and for a trental, ten shillings.

1505, John Foster, citizen of Norwich, cook, who gave twenty shillings.

..... Garrard Johnson, hardwareman, of the parish of St. Andrew, to be buried by Julian, his wife: he gave twenty shillings.*

1506, William Lyncoln, of Norwich, gentilman: he gave forty shillings; and to the high altar of St. Julian's church, in Norwich, six shillings and eight-pence; and to the repairs of it, twenty shillings, so that he dwelt in that parish.†

1508, Jone Geddeney, widow.

1509, Robert Barnard, late of Norwich, squyer, willed to be buried in the church of the Blak Freris, "in the myddes before our ladies' awtier, in the south side of the meddil aley." "Item.—I bequeth to the convent of the said Blak Frers, to pray for me, my wyff, &c., six marks; and a gown of cremsyn damask to make a cheseble thereoff."‡

1522, Elizabeth Felmyngham, widow, late the wife of Robert Felmyngham, gent., and, before, the wife of John Holdiche, esq., willed to be buried by her said husband Holdiche. "Item.—I bequethe to every frier, being a preste there, eight-pence; and to every novice, four-pence. Item.—To four

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* *Reg. Rix*, f. 326. † *Reg. Spyltimber*, f. 51. ‡ *Reg. Johnson*, f. 3.

A. D.

prestes that shall beyre my corse to the said church, four shillings. Item.—To the repair of their house, thirteen shillings and four-pence, besides the forty shillings which I have already given them. Item.—Six shillings and eight-pence yerely, for twenty yeres, to keep an obite. Item.—To the repair of the church steple of Felmyngham, thirteen shillings and four-pence. Item.—A cope of twenty marks, with the arms of the said J. Holdiche, to be given to the church of Fouldon. Item.—I woll that my executours do make a plate of laten, gilt, with an ymage pictured in the same of our Lady; and also, an ymage of my husband, J. Holdiche, kneling on the oone side, with his two soones and myn kneling by him, with a scoching of his armes and myn; and the oone of them in his winding-sheet, and the other, Robert Holdiche, in his cott armur, byfor the said ymage; and I, and my three daughters and his, in their winding-shetes, behind me, in the said plate: with scriptures, concerning where we lye. And the said plate to be sett in a wall, as near my said husband's grave and myn as may be conveniently, by the discretion of my executors."*

1529, Roger Colam, "one the southe side of Master Berney, by the awtier of our blissed ladye." "And I bequethe to the same house of freres for myn buryeng and other charges, as brekyng of the grownde, and to pray for myn soule, four pounds; also, to be distributed to the prestes and yonge freres of the same house, to pray for myn soule,

* *Reg. Grundsburgh*, f. 1.

forty shillings. Item.—I will have an honest priest of the same house to pray for my soul, and for the souls of my father and mother, &c., withyn the church of the said freres, by the space of seven yeers, or more, if it may be borne of my goodes; and he to have for his salarye four pounds per annum. And I wille that Master Doctour Todnam shall have the said servyce."*

To these, I shall add the following Account of Burials, from Mr. Weaver's Book of Funeral Monuments, but not correct there:—

William Mauteby; John Debenham; Margaret Erpingham; Jone, wife of Richard Wychingham, daughter of ..... Fastolf, obijt 1459; Thomas Yngham, sen., obijt 1455; Sir Simon Felbrigg, knight, obijt 1442; Dame Margaret, first wedded to Sir Gilbert Talbot, afterward to Constantine Clyfton, obijt 1434; John Berney, Esq., and Jone, his wife; John Holdiche, 1487; John Tellys, 1490; Edmond, son of John Hastings, 1487; and Eleanor, his wife, daughter of Edward Woodhouse, knight.

SOME OTHER BENEFACTORS TO THESE FRIARS, NOT BURIED HERE.

King Henry the third gave them ten marks in the fifty-sixth year of his reign.†

A. D.

1372, William de Pulham, mercer, citizen of Norwich, gave them twenty shillings to celebrate for his soul.‡

1496, John Hayne, orgone-maker, to the repair of their place, forty shillings.§

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* *Reg. Archid. Norvic.*

† *Mag. Rot.* 56, H. III., *Norff.*

‡ *Reg. Haydon.*

§ *Reg. Multone*, f. 13.

OF LETTERS OF CONFRATERNITY.

Another method of getting money was also used by these friars, and in general by all the religious orders, which was, the selling of letters of confraternity, thereby parcelling out their own merits to such persons as they could persuade to buy them, and which were not a few. These letters they always carried about with them; being ready drawn, excepting a blank for the persons' names, which was quickly filled up. I have seen an original, which was granted by our black friars, whereof take this translation:—

"To the devout, and our beloved in Christ, John Bery, and Margery, his wife, and Margaret, her mother, Friar Robert Felmyngham, humble Professor (*Sacræ Societatis*) of Divinity, and Prior Provincial of the Order of Friars Preachers of England, (wisheth) health and continual increase of celestial graces. The affection of your devotion, which you have to our order, requiring it, I grant you a special participation, as well in life as death, by the tenor of (these) presents, of all the masses, prayers, preachings, fasts, abstinences, watchings, labours, and all other good things, which, by the brethren and sisters of our order, the Lord hath granted to be done throughout the whole province of England. And I will, moreover, and order that, after your decease, your souls shall be recommended to the prayers of the brethren and sisters of the whole province, in our provincial chapter (*si vestri ibidem fuerint nunciati*) if we shall be there acquainted with it. And masses and prayers shall be injoined for them, as has been accustomed for our brethren and sisters deceased. In testimony of which thing, the seal of my office is appended to (these) presents. Dated at Norwich, A. D., M.CCCCC.vij.

FRIER WILLIAM BRYGGS, Prior."

NAME.

These Friars were called Jacobines, or Jacobites, Prechowrys, Prechours, (that is, Preachers) Dominicans, and Blake Fryrys.

CHAPELS BELONGING TO THEIR CHURCH.

Rauff Skety's Chapel, mentioned 1459; and, without doubt, so called from a chantry found by Ralph Skeet, one of the bailiffs in 1372, &c.

The Chapel of our Lady, 1502.

Thomas Beckett's Chapel, in the great vault under the library.

ALTARS.

The New Altar, 1457.

The Altar of our Lady, on the south side of the middle alley, 1509.

The Altar in Beckett's chapel.

IMAGES.

The Image of St. Peter of Malayn, 1466.

LIGHTS.

The Light of St. Quyryne, 1505.

The Light of Holy Roode and of St. Barbara, 1527.

The choir of their church was adorned with wainscot, curiously painted and gilt, representing many historical parts of scripture, and also several legendary stories, which, at the suppression of the monastery, was bought by Mr. ....., of St. Andrew's parish, and fixed round about the parlour of his house, which is opposite to the

north side of St. Andrew's church, where it still remains to be seen, and is a curiosity of the kind scarcely to be matched in England. Upon the lower rails of the said wainscot are several inscriptions, still legible, in memory of some benefactors of the said friars, namely,—

ORATE PRO ANIMABUS RICHARDI BROWN, NUPER MAIORIS CIVITATIS NORVICI, ET ALICIE, CONSORTIS SUE.

ORATE PRO ANIMABUS EDMUNDI SEGEFORTH, MERCER, CIVIS NORVICI, NUPER DE SALLE, ET JOHANNE ET ELWYSE, UXORUM SUARUM, ET OMINUM BENEFACTORUM EORUNDEM.

ORATE PRO ANIMABUS WILLELMI NORWICH, QUONDAM MAIORIS CIVITATIS, ET ..... QUONDAM CONSORTIS SUE, ET OMNIUM BENEFACTORUM.

ORATE PRO ANIMA JOHANNIS NORWICH, SACRE PAGINE PROFESSORIS.

These curious paintings were in the utmost danger of being destroyed in 1724; a fire happening in the house, which burned down all the back part of it, and damaged part of the front. But, by the very great help of people, and it being also covered with tiles, whereas the back part was reeded, the front of the house, and therein this parlour, was preserved: but the painting something injured by the great quantity of water poured upon the house, and which ran down upon it.

GILDS.

The Gilde of St. Wylliam, in the Blake Friers, 1521.*
The Gilde of the Holie Roode, kepte there, 1527.†

LIBRARY.

The Library of the Black Friars was a long building,

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* *Reg. Alabaster*, f. 116. † *Reg. Palgrave*, f. 17.

from west to east, near the north side of the chancel of their church, and is now a dwelling-house.

The books observed therein by Leland,* were—

Distinctiones Theologicæ, auctore Gulielmo Lincolniensi Cancellario; (sic incipiens) "Arcus dicitur Christus."
Cosby, super Apocalypsim. "Quod vides scribe."
Fyzaker, super primum Nocturnum Psalterij usque ad "Deus meus, respice."—"Iste Liber docet."

PRIORS OF THE BLACK FRIARS.

Nicholas de Edenham, Prior, 1290.—18 Edward I.
Galfridus de Derham.—33 Edward I.
Robert de Fretone.—4 Richard II.
John Pynnesthorp.—30 Henry VI.
Doctour Roger Bemunde, 1501.†
Thomas Bekyllys, 1505.‡
William Brygges, 1507.
Edmund Harecok, 1556, resigned; and was succeeded by—
Thomas Briggs, Bachelor of Divinity, who was Prior.—29 Henry VIII.§

A. D. 1243. A Prior of the Friars Preachers of Norwich, not named, was a delegate, authorised by the cardinals, the papal chair being vacant, to cause to be put in execution by ecclesiastical censure, a mandate of theirs, concerning the church of Mordune.‖

There was also in this monastery a house, called the *School-house*, as appears from an instrument of protestation and appeal, made A. D. 1376, by Friar Adam de Halesworth, as Proctor for the Friars Preachers of Norwich, Cambridge,

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* *Collectanea*, vol. III., p. 26. † *Reg. Popy*, f. 76.
‡ *Reg. Popy*, f. 43. § *Cur.*, 20*th June*.—29 Henry VIII.
‖ *Pryne*, v. II., p. 651; *ex M. P.*, p. 583.

Lynn, Sudbury, Dunwich, Ipswich, Yarmouth, Dunstable, and Thetford, made before Henry de Playford, Notary-Public, *in domo Scolarum Fratrum ordinis Predicatorum civitatis Norvici.**

Upon the suppression of all monasteries, frierys, &c., in A. D. 1538, the house and church of the Black Friars, in Norwich, escaped the axes and hammers of king Henry the eighth, which almost every where demolished all such edifices; for the city resolved, if possible, to obtain it for their own public use, and, for that end, first sent Harry Lynsted, alderman, to London about it.—"Paid to Mr. Lynsted, when he rode to London for the commonalty, concerning the place of the Black Freris, three pounds six shillings and eight-pence."†

Afterwards, at an assembly on Saturday, the last day of August, in the thirtieth year of king Henry the eighth, they agreed, that Edward Rede, and Austyn Styward alderman, shall ride to Kenynghall, to the Lord Duke of Norfolk, to have his Grace's will and pleasure, if the commonalty shall make suit to the king's grace, to have the grant of the black friars' house, which is thought shall be suppressed, or not, &c.; so that the city were willing to oblige the duke, and if he had designed to purchase it himself, it seems they would have made no further suit about it. The said Austyn Styward appears to have been the most active and public-spirited man of the whole city, in his time, as appears from a number of records; and he was the principal instrument in obtaining the black friars for the city.

At an assembly on the third of May, in the thirty-second year of king Henry the eighth, it was agreed, that

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* *Autograph. in Guildhall.* † *Comp. Camer.*—29 Henry VIII.

Mr. Styward "shall be repaid all money that he hath paid for the commonalty, in obtaining of the king the place of the black freres, which the king, by great labour and diligence, suit and means of the same Austyn Styward, hath granted to the city, upon the following petition to him from the city: namely—

"To the Kyng's most Royalle Majestye. Most noble and most drade Sovereigne Lorde—Your pouer most humble and obedient subjects, the mayer and other, the citizyns of your pouer citie of Norwyche, most lowlye do becheche your most excelent and redoubted majestie, to extende your bounteous goodnes towards them in suche thynges, as wherein they shalle, at this present tyme, be most humble sewters unto your highnes.

"May it please your most excellent Majestie to be advertysed, that, lyke as, the xxixth day of August last past, by virtue of your Gracy's commission, the house of the Austeyne Freris of your Hignes' pouer citye of Norwich was dissolved; so it is universallye thought amongest your seyde oratours, at this present tyme, that all the other houses of freres within that your Gracy's cytye, shalle, hereafter, for their ungodly lyvyng, likewyse be dissolved: and whereas the house of the blak freris there, is situate and standith in the myddys and face of your Gracy's seyd citie, to the fayre sight, apparaunce, and suertye of the same; and, forasmuche as your pouer oratours and obedient subjectys, the citezyns there, considerynge as welle the verey utter decaye of the sale of worstedis and sayes, as also of suche other thyngis as have bene accustomed to be made within their (your Gracy's) pouer citie, which hath been the great welthe, mayntenaunce, and supportacyone of the same, and not nowe, at this present tyme, for that and other consideracyones any longer able

to support and maynteyne the chargis of your Gracy's said citie, onles they may be, by the bountye of your most redoubted Majestie, from hensfurthe holpen in that behalf;

"It may therefore please the same, your most habundaunt goodnes, in consideracyon of the premyssis, to graunt the same house of the blak freris, with the appurtenaunces, to your Gracy's seyd oratours, the inhabitauntys there, with the whiche, and suche other thynges as shal be employed thereunto, they may be the more able to maynteyne the chargis of your Highnes' seyd citie; and they shall maynteyn, not only the face of the seyd church of the said freris, and be bounden to your most royall Majestye to fynd a perpetual free-scole therein, for the good erudicion and education of yought in lernyng and vertue, but also shal be most worthy bounden, as alredy they are, to pray to Almightye God for the prosperouse preservacyon of your most Royall estate, to alle our comfortis long to endure, and at length to reward the same with eternalle joye."

Besides the preceding petition, I have also met with the following notes concerning this matter: namely—

"Consyderacions why the citie of Norwiche, (that I, Austen Steward, alderman,*) doth aske the gifte of the blak freris, with the orchard, &c., of the kyngis highnes, Henry the VIII.

"First.—To make of the churche a fayer and large halle, well pathed, for the mayor and his bretherne, with all the citizens of the same, to repair thereunto for their common assemblyes, as often as shall be expedient, as they have always used it tyme oute of mynde, for the quyet governaunce and worship of the said citie.

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* Added by his own hand.

"Item.—To have there a pulpitte for all straungers and others, to preche the worde of God on Sondays and holydayes, bothe in the forenoone and afternoone, in such tymes, as when there is no sermon at the Crosse withyn the cathedral church.

"Item.—Of the quere: to make it a chapelle for a preest for the said citizens, at their assemblye-dayes, and other, to here masse thereyn, and other servyce dayly.

"Item.—Of the houses withyn the place: of those that be necessarye to stond, to make of the dortour and fraytour, garnettis for to leye thereone corne for the citie's store in tyme of skarcitie, and to maynteyne the maltyng-house, mil-house, and baking-house for the profite of the citie.

"Item.—The orcheyard to be lette out for the mayntenaunce of the same walls, and the reparacions of the churche and walls of the same house."*

The king complied with the city's request, and granted the same by the following charter, A. D. 1540:—

"Henry the eighth, by the Grace of God, of England and France King, Defender of the Faith, Lord of Ireland, and on Earth Supreme Head of the English Church, to all to whom the present letters shall come, greeting. Know ye, that we, for the sum of eighty and one pounds of lawful money of England, paid into the hands of the treasurer of the Court of Augmentations of the Revenues of our Crown, to our use, by our beloved, Augustine Steward, of our city of Norwich, merchant, of our special grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, have given and granted, and by these presents do give and grant to our beloved, the mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty of our said city of Norwich, the whole house

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* *Lib. Civitatis.*

and site of the late priory or house of the late Friars Preachers, commonly called the *Blak Freres*, within our said city of Norwich, now dissolved; and the whole church and steeple, with the lead, iron, and glass of the same; and the church-yard of the same house or priory of the late Friars Preachers; and all our messuages, houses, edifices, barns, stables, yards, orchards, gardens, pools, ponds, land, and soil, being within the site, circuit, and precinct of the said late priory; and all the exterior walls, including the site of the said late priory; and also, all that our yard and orchard, and the walls belonging, in the parishes of St. Clement and St. Mary, unburnt, in the great ward beyond the water, within the aforesaid city, lately belonging and appertaining to the said priory, and being parcel of the lands and possessions of the same house or priory of the late Friars Preachers, together with the chapel, and all the houses and edifices, being within the inclosure of the walls of the aforesaid yard; and also, our one tenement, with the appurtenances, in the tenure of John Baker, situate and being in the parish of St. Clement, in the aforesaid city, which said tenement was lately parcel of the lands and possessions of the said late priory—To have and to hold, and enjoy the aforesaid site of the said late priory or house of the late Friars Preachers; and all and singular the aforesaid messuages, lands, and tenements, gardens, orchards, and all other and singular the premises above expressed and specified, with their appurtenances, to the afore-mentioned mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty of our said city of Norwich, and to their successors for ever. To be held of us, our heirs and successors, *in capite*, by the service of the twentieth part of one knight's fee, and rendering for the same yearly to us, our heirs and successors, nine shillings sterling, at our Court of Aug-

mentations of the Revenues of our Crown, at the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, in every year, to be paid for all rents, services, and demands whatsoever, to be for the same rendered, paid, or performed,—the statute against putting of lands and tenements to mortmain, or any other statute, act, law, restriction, or any other thing, cause, or matter whatsoever, to the contrary thereof, in any wise notwithstanding; and furthermore, of our more abundant grace, we give and grant, by (these) presents, to the before-mentioned mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty of our said city of Norwich, all the issues, rents, revenues, and profits of all and singular the premises above expressed and specified, with their appurtenances, from the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, last past, hitherto coming or growing; to have to the same mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty, of our gift, without account, or any other thing for the same, to be rendered, paid, or performed to us, or our successors, in any manner. We also will, and by (these) presents do grant, to the afore-mentioned mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty, that they may have, and they shall have, these our letters patent, in due manner, sealed under our great seal of England, without fine or fee, great or small, to be performed, paid, or rendered for the same to us, in our hamper, or elsewhere, to our use, in any wise, *eo quod;* the express mention of the true yearly value, or of the certainty of the premises, or of any of them, or of the other gifts or grants, by us heretofore made to the afore-mentioned mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty of the city aforesaid, or to their predecessors, not being made in (these) presents, or any statute, act, ordinance, provision, or restriction, to the contrary hereof made, published, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cause, or matter whatsoever, in any

wise, notwithstanding. In testimony of which thing, we have caused these our letters patent to be made. Witness myself, at Westminster, the twenty-fifth day of June, in the thirty-second year of our reign."*

But, notwithstanding the above grant of the whole house, with the lead, iron, &c., yet the city was afterwards obliged to purchase the lead (which at first could not be valued, and a bond of five hundred marks was given that it should remain till valued) of the king, for one hundred and fifty-two pounds, as I find in the chamberlain's account, four years after the above charter. "Item.—Paid at Bury, to Mr. John Eyer, receiver to the king, for the leed of the church, chancel, steeple, and two yles of the common hall, valued at thirty-eight fudder, after four pounds per fudder, one hundred and fifty-two pounds."†

OF THE CLOISTERS OF THE BLACK FRIARS.

The cloister, of which the greatest part is still standing, is a large building, enclosing a square piece of ground, each side being about eighty-six feet long, (though, now, the additional buildings on the west and south sides have taken about five or six feet off it,) near the north side of their church, consisting of a double walk or portico, vaulted, and having four windows on each side, and large rooms or chambers over it, with a part, which is continued from the south-west corner of it, westward, to the street, and another from the north-west corner of it, northward; in which latter part was the kitchen of the monastery. The room over the east side of the cloister was the

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* *Per Breve de Privato Sigillo et de datâ prædictâ auctoritate Parliamenti.*
Ch. Hales.—Irrotataeum. Pat. 32, H. 8, part 5.

† *Comp. Camerar.*—36 Henry VIII. (I have seen the acquittance for it.) *Ed.*

dortour, which ran southward, unto the west end of the library; *that* over the west side, was the *frayter;* and the *fermery* was over the west part of the south side, which, as before said, ran to the street, over the common passage, now called the *Dark Entry*. Another part, vaulted, ran from the south side of the south-east corner unto the north door of the steeple, so that the friars could pass to their choir without fear of being wet by rain; but this was broke down in the eighth year of queen Elizabeth. In the portico, or walks, they buried the friars, as I suppose; for I have seen skulls and other human bones, dug up there A. D. 1696, when holes were dug to place the large blocks for the mint, on which the dies, or coining-irons, were fixed. At the north-west corner of it, there remained, still visible in 1713, two very large crucifixes, painted on the walls, with many inscriptions on each side of them; but, by the damp or moisture of the place, the letters were too imperfect to be read. One of these crucifixes is painted on the north wall, at the north end of the west side or walk; and the other, on the west wall, at the west end of the north walk. This part has long been used for a store-cellar for beer, which has caused a great moisture upon the walls.

In the midst of the east side of the cloister, and extending beyond it eastward, stood the *Friars' Chapter-house*, which fell down soon after the city had purchased the monastery, namely, on St. Stephen's day, in the thirty-second year of king Henry the eighth, and a great part of the dortour roof fell down with it. The entrances on the east side of the chapter-house were thereupon pulled down, and the wall levelled, in the thirty-fifth year of king Henry the eighth. An arch fell down last winter, in the south corner of the chapter-house. It remains in

ruins, and not rebuilt. It cost much money for overthrowing of walls, beating down of buttresses, and breaking of great clods or lumps of wall that came of them; and also, for sorting of the brick and stone, and making clean the way from the street, along the east side of the cloister unto the water-gate at the river side, in the thirty-third year of king Henry the eighth, occasioned by the ruin of the chapter-house and some adjoining buildings: also, in the thirty-sixth year of king Henry the eighth, we find payments for making clean the cloister, and fetching manure out of the ground that was the chapter-house, to fill up the corner there near, to make it level with the rest, and for closing the chapter-house door.*

OF THE DEMOLITIONS, NEW BUILDINGS, AND ALTERATIONS, AFTER THE MONASTERY CAME INTO THE HANDS OF THE CITY.

In the chamberlain's account, in the thirty-third year of king Henry the eighth, many particulars are set down under this title, namely,—"Costes and chargis hade and done within the tyme of thys accompt, in the place late cald the Blacke Fryers, now cald the Common Halle, whyche place was spoyled and sore dekayed, and now re-edyfyed and reparyd."

Inter alia.—"Of the Churchwardeyns of St. Peter of Mancroft, for a stoppe† of freston that stode at the west dore of the same halle, late the churche, six shillings and eight-pence; of John Pylson, (glazier) for six rowndells of glasse, that was gentylmen's armys, ten-pence."

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* *Comp. Camer.*—33 and 36, Hen. VIII. † This was to put their holy water in.

And in the thirty-fifth year of king Henry the eighth, six tables, that stood in the fraytour, were sold for fifty-five shillings; and the said house was made a garner, or granary, as was also the fermery, and several other rooms. The vestry, on the north side of the chancel, was turned into a hall, a chamber, and other rooms, for the tenement then built, adjoining to it, near the elm, in the thirty-third year of king Henry the eighth. This tenement reached to the south end of the dorter. And another vestry was built near it, of smaller dimensions, in the thirty-sixth year of Henry the eighth, which now is used by the Dutch minister.

In the thirty-seventh year of Henry the eighth, "sold an old almery of wainscot, that stood some time in the old vestry, and eighteen thin selyng-boards that came out ther, for twenty pence."—Then too

"Part of the dorter-roof fell down, namely, the middle part of it; and the timber of it was used to make the trussylls to all the new stalls in the pultre-market, fresh-fish market," &c.: it was not re-built, but remains still open, as also the south end does, whereof the remaining roof was taken down, and framed for the new kitchen.

In the thirty-fourth year of Henry the eighth, several charges were paid "for taking down the old rovys (roofs) and planchers on the south syde of the cloyster, whereof part was fallen down before. Also, for brekyng down the walls over the cloyster, on the north syde of the halle, and levellyng all the long courte on the said north side."—And in the second year of Edward the sixth, "for taking down the tyle over the vyce, that lede up to the old bak-house, which was redy to falle down. Also, for takyng down certain galleryes at the southe end of the old bak-house, which galleryes were ready to falle."

The Library was partly covered with lead, which was taken down; and now, in the thirty-third year of Henry the eighth, it was covered all over with *thaktyle*, and the windows of it were stopped with two loads of brick, which came from the grey friars, and cost only two shillings; and the house was now made parcel of the tenement against the two elms.

In the thirty-fifth year of Henry the eighth, in the chamberlain's account, we find payments for "makyng a new carte-gate out of the strete, next the two elmys," (where some house stood before) into the east part of the same place, and levelling all that court, from the street-side, south, down to the river, north.

"Item.—For buyldyng a new house out of the ground over the said gate, and so forthe, to the east end of the lybrary, transposyng the said lybrary into a halle, a buttry, and a very fayre parlour. Item.—A new kechyne, with an ovyne, and a vowlt under the same, with a well therein, and three chymneys in those houses."

THE ANCRESS-HOUSE.

There was also a house called the Ancress-house,* concerning which, at an assembly, the Friday after the Ascension, in the second year of Edward the sixth, it was agreed, "that Kateryn Man, late recluse in the house of

* It should seem that the anchorites' house was near the bridge; for it was probably the same which a man had before, who was called the Hermite of Newbrygg, and is mentioned, A. D. 1441, 1442, and 1464, as "Richard, Hermyte of Newbrygg, and his clerk:" this Richard was, I think, the same with Richard Ferneys, Hermite, some time of Newbrigg, whose will, dated A. D. 1464, I have seen in the *Reg. Jekkys*, f. 15, wherein he willed to be buried in the church of "Chapply-field College."

the late Blake Freris, should have twenty shillings annuity, yearly, during her life; the same Kateryn relinquishing to the commonalty all such right as she had in the said ancress-house, with the appurtenances."

The ancress at the Black Friars is mentioned 1472 and 1479 (a legacy of twenty-pence to her.)

The ancress near the church of the Friars of the Order of St. Dominick is mentioned 1475, 1476.*

Katharine Foster, a recluse here, 1471 (a legacy given then to her maid.)†

OF THE SCHOOL.

A Grammar-school was kept here above-stairs, in the room late the fermery, or rather, as in another account, the fraytour, in the thirty-third year of Henry the eighth, and Walter Halle was school-master; but, after the city had purchased the charnel for a free-school, I find no more of a school here.

OF THE CHURCH.

The body of the church was made now a common hall for the corporation; and, to distinguish it from the old Guild-Hall in the market-place, it is called the New Hall.

It seems that all the pavement, as well of this as of the choir, namely, gravestones and other marbles, had been taken up and sold before the city purchased it; for this year, seventeen loads of small *pathyng tyle*, or pavements, as we now call them, were brought from the grey friars to pave the said hall. These were bought there, and paid for by Augustine Steward, alderman. But about three thousand more were also bought and used; and the

* *Reg. Gelour*, f. 128. † *Reg. Caston*, f. 163.

workmen's wages came to four pounds one shilling and six-pence.

The choir, or chapel, now the Dutch church, was at the same time paved with new *pathyng tyle*, namely, six thousand tyle annealed, which were bought at Yarmouth for four pounds six shillings, and with setting, &c., came to six pounds six shillings and eleven-pence. The steeple was also paved with pathyng tyle; and the way that leads from the steeple to the cloister with pathyng stone. Then, as was requisite for a hall, a new buttry and pantry were built at the west end of the hall, namely, on the outside of it--one on the north, the other on the south side of the west porch; and doors made out of the hall into them. For joists of the roofs thereof were bought forty-two great spars, which were parcel of the spars of the grey friars' chancel, and cost forty-two shillings; and with other things and work, fourteen pounds nine shillings and eleven-pence.*

The next year we find payments for "fynyshing the buttry and pantry with shelvys, bredehutches, &c. Item.—Fynyshyng the halle with castyng, whytyng the walls, and makyng rayles for hangyngs arounde the same. Item.—For makyng of ten benchys betwyxt the pillars, with seats and backs,† and for fourmys and trustylls, and a square cubbard. Item.—For makyng of a new foundation and a mayne walle from the grownd up, in the arch betwyn the east end of the hall and the stepyll,‡ &c., &c.

"Item.—35 Henry VIII., to a mason for coveryng all the tabylls of the clarystoryes of the south yle of the hall with morter and thacktyle, to make the water shote from the glass."

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* *Comp. Camer.*—33 Henry VIII.

† These were made by agreement for eleven pounds.

‡ *Comp. Camer.*—34 Henry VIII.

A house was also now built,* partly on each side, and partly above the south porch, near the west end of the hall, by Sir John Kempe, the priest of the chapel, towards which the city gave him certain stone, timber, tile, &c., unto forty shillings, towards the finishing thereof.†

The choir aforesaid was fitted up for a chapel for the mayor, aldermen, &c., to repair to on public days; and for the several companies, guilds, or fraternities of tradesmen and artificers, to hear mass in, on their respective guild-days.‡

The offerings made by them were paid by the priest to the chamberlain for the use of the city, who paid him a certain yearly stipend for his service.

Therefore, in the chamberlain's account,§ he charges himself with the receipt of three pounds eight shillings and five-pence of Mr. Kempe, priest of the common hall, for "the offrynggs of fraternities of guylds" kept there.

And in his account of the thirty-fourth year of Henry the eighth, we find, amongst his receipts, an article intituled "*Offrynys and Certeyns of Guilds;*" and, under it: "Item.—Receyved of Sir John Kempe, Chapleyn of the Comon Halle, for the Offryngs and Certeyns of dyuers Guylds kept there, in the tyme of this Accompte—

	s.	*d.*
"*Imprimis.*—Of the offryng of the Paryshe Clerks ...	3	4
"*Item.*—Of the Shoemakers' offryng 5*s.* 6*d.*; and of them for a certeyn 4*s.* 4*d.*	9	10
"*Item.*—Of the Mercers' offryng 10*s.* 11*d.*; certeyn 5*s.*	15	11
"*Item.*—Of the Smythis and Masons' offryngs 2*s.* 11*d.*; certeyn 4*s.*	6	11

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* 35 Henry VIII.

† In the chamber of this house is now the city library.

‡ See the ordinance, made A. D. 1543, under that year.

§ 33 Henry VIII.

	s.	*d.*
"*Item.*—Of the Taylors' offryng 5*s.* 10*d.*; certeyn 4*s.* 4*d.*	10	2
"*Item.*—Of the Bedwevers' offryng 3*s.* 8*d.*; certeyn 4*s.*	7	8
"*Item.*—Of the Bochers' offryng 5*s.* 1*d.*; certeyn 4*s.*	9	1
"*Item.*—Of the Wullenwevers' offryng 4*s.*; certeyn 4*s.*	8	0
"*Item.*—Of the Carpenters' offryng 2*s.* 6*d.*; certeyn 4*s.*	6	6
"*Item.*—Of the Fyshmongers' offryng oonly	4	2
"*Item.*—Of the Reders' offryng oonly	1	8
"*Item.*—Of the Goldsmyths', Sadlers', Calendrers', and Dyers' offryng 2*s.* 8*d.*; and of them for a certeyn 4*s.* 4*d.*	7	0
"*Item.*—Of the Worsted-wevers for a certeyn only ..	5	0
"*Item.*—Of the Inkepers' offryng, and Bakers' with Brewers', 2*s.*; and certeyn 4*s.* 4*d.*	6	4
"*Item.*—Of the Tanners, for a certeyn oonly	4	0
"*Item.*—Of the Hat-makers, for a certeyn oonly ...	5	0
"*Item.*—Of the Grocers, for a certeyn oonly	5	0
"*Item.*—Of the Barbers, for a certeyn oonly	3	4"

The sum of all these is five pounds eighteen shillings and eleven-pence; and the next year the sum was seven pounds seven shillings and four-pence: but, in the thirty-seventh year of Henry the eighth, there was no more than three pounds ten shillings and eleven-pence paid in all, for "bochers, fyshmongers, bakers and brewers, reders and watermen, barbours, carpenters, goldsmyths, inkepers, tanners," &c. But note, in the first year of Edward the sixth, there was nothing at all paid; all being put down by act of parliament.

In the chamberlain's account, of the thirty-second year of Henry the eighth, are several small charges, paid for "carrying in of stolys and the pulpit, bell-rope, trimming of the tabernacle for the pyxt, &c., in the Chapel of the late Black Freres.

"In the thirty-third year of Henry the eighth, paid to Clement for candyll for the chappell all wynter, four

pounds and five-pence; and to hym" (he was the sexton, it seems) "for helpyng the priest to syng messe the whole yere, four-pence.

"Item.—To a carpenter, for makyng a coffer to cover the hole in the roffe of the chapell, where the lampe dyd hange, and ledyng of the same coffer, nine-pence.

"Item.—To a glaswright, for makyng of two panys of glass in oon of the north windows of the chappell, which was broke by the tylers whan the lybrary was tyled, two shillings.

"In the thirty-fourth year of Henry the eighth, paid to John Byrch, carpenter, and all hys men, takyng down the crucyfyxe, twelve-pence.

"Item.—Spent in brede and drynke amongst the carpenters, masons, laborers, and strangers besyde, abought the takyng downe of the said crucyfyxe, fourpence.*

"To Clement, the sexton, for makyng the chappell, the walls, and the ymages clene agenst Ester, whyche were sore fowlyd, four-pence; and for washyng of the napery and scoryng the latten agenst Ester, three-pence; and to Mr. Kempe for a newe pyxt, that he bought for the sakerment, eight-pence.

"Item.—For a new herse for the chappel, &c.

"Item.—For a new pane of glasse in the east wyndowe in the chappel, with a new ymage of St. Katherine, two shillings.

"Item.—To a carpenter for makyng a perke over the chappell-dore, to set one the organs ageynst *Corpus Christi* day. To four laborers that holpe home the organs from St. George's church * * * *

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* "The old roode was ryvyn to help to hete the plumbers' yrons for mendyng the roof:" that is, the old crucifix was split into pieces and burnt.—1 Edward VI.—*Comp. Camer.*

"Item.—Paid for six long mattes for the stolys, and eight shorter mattes for the desks in the chappell, two shillings and one penny.

"Item.—For rayls in the chappell for hangyngs, twelve-pence. There was also bought a fair chest of wainscotte, to set in the chappell, to lock in the vestments, chales, &c.; and two new napkyns bought for the altar in the chappell; and two new cruetts.

"Item.—Paid to a prest that sange masse on *Corpus Christi* day, in the mornyng, to consecrat an host for the pyxt, ageynst processyon to be borne, four-pence: to other two prestes that war decons that day, four-pence.

"Item.—For two new pryketts for the candyllstycks in the chapell, fourpence.

"For the charges of the clerks that sange masse and even-song for the smyths and masons, the Sonday byfore Mydsomer, twenty-pence."

The same year* the city granted to Sir John Kempe, clerk, "in consideration that he, of his benevolence, hath bestowed about the buylding of a lodgyng with three chambers, over the porch of the house, late the black friars, now the common hall of the city, and on either side of the same porch, above sixty pounds;—that, therefore, the said J. Kempe shall have the said lodgyng, with the office callyd the *Chapleyn of the Chappell*, belonging to the said hall, called *St. John's Chapell*, with all the oblacions; also, liberty of the garden and yard, called the prechyng-yard: and if the oblations shall not be so much yearly as six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence, that then the city should make it up so much to him."†

"The thirty-fifth year of Henry VIII., paid for mendyng the organs in the chappell, six shillings and

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* 34 Henry VIII. † A. C. N.

eight-pence; and for scoryng of latten, and mending of the lampe, with twenty fadom of lyne for the said lampe, and hangyng up, eleven-pence. Item.—For one hundred pounds of lede, made in a weyght, to hang in a coffer in the roffe of the chappell, for the lamp, &c.

"The thirty-sixth year of Henry the eighth, payd to a carpenter, makyng a lectorne for the myd quer; and another, to stand at the hye altar end; and a third for the organs, three shillings. Item.—To John Jowelle, for two fayer lectorn-hedes, that came out of the grey fryers, three shillings and four-pence.

"Item.—Payd Mr. Kempe, prest of the common hall, for wyne and wax for prestes, straungers, that daly resort and syng masse in the chappell, two shillings. Item.—For the clarke and sexton of St. Andrew's, for ther help at the prestes guylde, six-pence. Item.—To two prestes, that war deacon and sub-deacon on *Corpus Christi* day, eight-pence."

I find they also made the chapel serve sometimes for a *play-house;* for the account, in the thirty-eighth year of Henry the eighth, hath, "Item.—Payd for mendyng the dores, fourmys, and desks in the chappell, which war brokyn by vyolens of pepille that war ther at an interlude, the Sonday after Twelfth-day, eight-pence half-penny.

"Item.—Gave in reward to Mr. Byrde, scolemaster of the gramer-scole, for his scolers playeng the said interlude, ten shillings."

Also, in the second year of Edward the sixth, "paid, 11 Decemb. to the kyngys players, playeng an interlude in the comon hall, on the Sonday, Monday, and Tewsday, twenty shillings; and to my Lord Protector's players, 14 Decemb. ten shillings. Item.—Another interlude was played here the Sonday byfore Candylmas." Also, at a court of mayoralty, 30 March, 1616, license was given

to Queen Anne's company of players, &c., to play four days in the chapel, near the new-hall.

At a court, 27 Decem. 1617,—"Whereas, letters were received from the counsell, about a runnynge lottery in this city, it is thought fitt, at the request of Mr. Barbour, who brought the said letters, that the new-hall chappell shal be appoynted for that purpose. Paid, also, the saide thirty-eighth year of Henry the eighth, for mendyng a vestment of blew badkyne, and another of grene velvet, with their albs, stoles, and tannons, two shillings; and, in the second year of Edward the sixth, payd to St. Andrew's sexton, for mendyng the bawdryke of one of the bells, one penny;"—so that there were then at least two bells in the steeple. In the old churchwardens' book, belonging to St. Andrew's parish, it appears, that the sixth and great bell of that church was bought of the prior of the black friars, at the dissolution, and weighed twenty-two hundred weight, and cost sixteen pounds. It had this distich upon it—

"Laudo Deum verum, plebem voco, convoco Clerum,
"Defunctos ploro, pestem fugo, festa decoro."*

This was broke, and new cast, A. D. 1566; and after, in A. D. 1635; and, of late years, it was again broke, to make small bells, when the peal was increased to eight bells.

"And paid at Ester, for a book of the newe servyse for the common hall, six shillings and eight-pence.

"The third year of Edward the sixth, payd for a new Bybyll for the common-halle chappelle, for servyce to be sayd therein dayly, twelve shillings.

"Item.—Receyved of the churchwardens of St. John at Tymbyrhyll, for three pecys of battylment, that came off the rood-loft, four shillings.

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* *Coll. D. Tanner, Canc.*

"The fifth year of Edward the sixth, payments for sixteen pounds of candell, burnt at the chappell, at Newhall, mornyng and evyning, and for ryngyng the bell, and for a new servyce-book for the chappell."

At a court of mayoralty, 29 January, in the first year of queen Mary, the chamberlains were ordered to make up the altars at the new-hall and guildhall; but, in the second year of queen Elizabeth, the Commandments and a Calendar were bought.*

At a court, 29 Oct. 1614, agreed, "that the organ-case that standeth in the new-hall, shal be removed and sent down to the hospitall, to be there imployed till further order.

"The fourth year of Edward the sixth.—In the Chappel at the common hall, remaynyng at Michaelmas. *Imprimis*.—Four deskys fyxed above the steppys. Item.—Two long deskys, bynethe the steppys, not fyxed; oon old long fourm, and two short fourmis; a coffer with four feet, stonding in the mydde chappelle; two long lectorns and two turnyng lectorns; a beam, that the rood somtyme stood on; two long planks, that war the cross, that the rood was nayled on; a lamp of latten, with a wight of lede in the roof of the chappel; a stole of yron for oon to syt on; a payer of organs stondyng upon a scaffold, fyxed at the chapelle's ende, next the stepylle; a new fourm, stondyng by the organs; a payer of joynyd stayers, to go up to the organs.

"Item.—In the Vestry there. Two altar clothys of dyaper; a corporas cape of whyte damaske, with a clothe in it; a vestment of grene velvet, with an awbe therto; a vestment of blew wachet, with flowers of gold, and lynyd with sylke, and an awbe therto; three pecys of hangyngs of black worsted," (for the herse, I guess)

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* *Comp. Cam.*

"imbrodred with dede bodys, rysyng owt of graves; a Book of Common Prayers; a new Bybyll.

"In the Stepyll ther. Two bells hangyng.

"Item.—A pulpyt of waynscot, new;" (which is now at St. Stephen's church.)

"Item.—In the Hall there, an altar, stondyng in the nether end, in the stede of a cubbard."—This is the large stone table, commonly called *the stone*, which stands at the south-east corner of the hall, being the upper end, where St. George's company dined, and where the several companies of tradesmen or artificers usually hold their meetings. The crosses, in several parts not yet worn out, show it to have been an altar. The Dutch congregation had this chapel afterwards for their church, as they now have; but they had first the new hall: for, in A. D. 1619, I find it mentioned, that the Dutch had long used the new-hall for their church, without recompence given to the city for the same.*

The same year, "the Lord Bishop of Norwich, having required to have his chappell into his own hands; and bene pleased to take a viewe of the chappell at the new-hall, to the end, that the Wallon congregation, who now use his lordship's chappell, might there be provided for, which this house" (that is, the court of mayoralty) "did like well of, the said Wallons having bene formerly called into this court, and willed to take consideration of the business till this day, the seventeenth of November, 1619, they now do answer, that the said chappell at the new-hall, is too little for their company; and that the sermons of the Dutch and Wallons being at one and the self-same tyme, the voyce of the one congregation, in singing Psalmes and the like, will hinder and disturb the other; and that, therefore, they will be

* *Cur. Major*—12 Nov. 1619.

petitioners to his lordship for their contynuance in his lordship's chappell."*

The Dutch continued to have the use of the hall for their church till 1625; but they had no seats built or fixed in it, but only used their own chairs, which they caused to be removed every time, the same or next day.†

But, in A. D. 1625, they had a grant of the chapel from the city, at six shillings and eight-pence per annum, which they fitted up with seats, &c., as best suited them: also, they had one of the chambers near it, where they held their consistories, or the meetings of their ministers, elders, and deacons, for the good government of their congregation. For this Consistory-Chamber they paid the city twenty shillings per annum, till 1643, when they left it.‡

At an assembly, on the eighth of September, 1650, it was agreed, that the Dutch chapel should be appointed for the preaching-place, instead of the cathedral, for the forenoon sermon on the sabbath-day, before the mayor and aldermen; and that seats be built in it for the mayor and aldermen, and for the common council-men and liverymen, and their wives; and, on the thirty-first of January following, that twenty-six cushions be provided for the mayor and aldermen's seats, with the city arms upon every cushion. At the same time, certain persons were appointed to acquaint Mr. Tolye and Mr. Kinge, in whose names the patronage of St. Peter of Hungate church was taken, that it is the desire of this assembly, that the Dutchmen may have the use of that church.

And at a court of mayoralty, seventh of June, 1651, it was agreed, that the sermon on the guild-even be at St. Andrew's, if the chappell be not ready, and upon

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* *Cur.*—17 Novem. 1619. † *Patet. Cur.*—26 Oct. 1622.

‡ *Comp. Camer.*

Tuesday, in the chappell; and that they shall ride to Christ-church gate, and there hear the oration, and then ride to the hall.

In 1656, a gallery was ordered to be built for the mayor and aldermen at the chapel;* but, after the restoration, the court repaired to the cathedral church, as formerly had been used.

And at an assembly, the twelfth of February, 15 Car. II., it was ordered, that the Dutch congregation should have the use of the chapel at the new-hall, for the exercise of divine worship, at the same rent they formerly did pay, &c.: yet, in the reign of king James the second, the papists used their endeavours to turn out the Dutch from it again; for, at an assembly, ninth of May, 1687, a petition from James Hacon, Esq. and Charles Skinner and William Cobb, gentlemen, was presented in behalf of themselves, and other Roman Catholics of the city, to have the use of this chapel, which was read; as was also another from Abraham Waller, Peter Prime, Peter Beak, John Hendrick, and others, members of the Dutch congregation, on the behalf of the said congregation, that they might enjoy their said church or chapel, as hitherto they had: whereupon, the question being put whether the Dutch should continue the possession thereof, it was agreed they should; there being forty-two notes in the affirmative, and but four in the negative. Afterwards, at an assembly, twenty-third of August, 1687, upon a letter from Sir Henry Bedingfeld to the mayor, in the king's name, recommending the Roman Catholics to be provided with a place for their worship, it was agreed, that they should have a lease of the west granary, late in

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* *Cur.*—13 Feb. 1655.

the use of the Independents of this city, at twelve-pence per annum acknowledgment, &c.

OF THE PREACHING-YARD.

And, now I am mentioning the chapel, I shall next take notice of the preaching-yard, which was the yard on the south side of the hall and chapel, which is called now the Green-yard. It was called the *Prechyng-yerd*, in the time of Edward the third, and perhaps long before; and doubtless had that name from sermons usually therein made by the friars preachers, at certain times of the year: afterwards, it went by the name of Mr. Kempe's Garden, from Mr. Kempe, the priest before-mentioned. The east part of this yard was severed from the rest of it, and leased out by the city, in the thirty-third year of Henry the eighth, whereof it is mentioned,—"Paid for a wall makyng betwixt the commons and the gardeyn, in lease to John Clark Cook, with a new bank in the prechyng-yerd; mendyng the buttracis, &c., seven pounds eight shillings."*

Afterwards, namely, in the fifteenth year of James the first, this part was sold by the city to Richard Manne and Samuel Manne, merchants; and is now a very fair house and garden, of which Mr. John Reeve, merchant, is owner.

In the other part, now called the Green-yard, was the great pulpit set up, which was brought from the green-yard at the cathedral; and galleries were made next the walls, on the east and south sides, for the mayor, aldermen, common-council, liverymen, and wives, to sit in and hear the sermons. This was done by order of assembly, made the third of May, 1650. For they preached some-

* *Comp. Cam.*—33 Henry VIII.

times in the chapel, and sometimes (in summer only, I suppose) in this yard. But, in old time, they had a moveable pulpit, which was carried into the yard, and set up in Rogation-week, as were also forms, or benches, to sit on: and the ground about the pulpit was strawed with green sedges the two first days. It was carried back again (into the chapel, I suppose) on Ascension-day.*

At an assembly, ninth of April, 1661, an order was made, "that the pulpit and seats at the greene-yard at the new hall shal be taken down, and set up with all convenient speed in the greene-yard at Christ-church; and the maior and aldermen shall continue their going to the cathedral church, to the forenoon sermon on the Lord's-day, &c., as in times before the year 1642, they did."

But the former part of the order was never performed; for, at an assembly, twelfth of July, 1672, the seats and scaffolds in the artillery-yard were ordered to be taken down, and the south side of the new-hall to be repaired.

At a court of mayoralty, the eighteenth of July, in the twenty-first year of Elizabeth, it was agreed, that such persons as should depart this life, in St. Andrew's parish, should for this year be buried in this new-hall yard.—(The plague was now in Norwich; and it was so used, and rent paid the city for the same, as appears by the churchwardens' account of St. Andrews' parish of the year 1579.†)

A FURTHER ACCOUNT OF THE NEW BUILDINGS.

When the city had purchased the monastery as aforesaid, and intended the church for their common hall, wherein to hold their St. George's Feast, &c., they found

* *Comp. Camer.*—33 and 34 Henry VIII. † *Coll. D. Tanner, Canc.*

the old kitchen not conveniently situated for that purpose, and therefore made a new one nearer to the hall, namely, near the north side of the west part of it, which is still used. And therefore, in the thirty-third year of Henry the eighth, we find, "a new kechyne begon to be bylded. *Imprimis.*—Paid to Mr. Gybbon, master of my Lord of Norfolk's works, comyng from Framyngham-Castle hither, for his advice, ten shillings. Item.—To diverse labourers betyng down the particions betwyxt the archys and the vowtyngs, and for claryfying of the ground, five shillings and three-pence. Item.—For eight lode of frestone, bought at the grey friars, twenty-six shillings and eight-pence. Item. To a fremason, for makyng the geamys of the chymneys, &c.—*Summa*, four pounds eighteen shillings and nine-pence half-penny."

In the thirty-fourth year of Henry the eighth, charges paid for "shoryng the planchour over the back-hows, when the gabill was taken down betwixt the back-house and the yard, which ys now the kechyn. Cost and charge done in the tyme of thys accompte at the common halle, namely:—

"*Imprimis.*—A new kechyne out of the grownde; makyng of two new ovyns in the back-howse, with moche other worke; and transposyng in the same howse.

"Item.—Fynyshyng of a wete-larder with new dores, wyndews, shelvys, &c.

"Item.—Fynyshyng of a dry-larder, or prevy kechyn, in like maner.

"Item.—Pathyng of the courts betwyxt all the said houses.

"Item.—Makyng of a new welle out of the grownd, with stops and cheynes, and a condyte from thense to the boylyng-offyce.

"Item.—Fynyshyng of a boylyng-howse, with leds, cystern, &c.

"Item.—Fynyshyng of a dresser-howse, with all necessarys.

"Item.—For makyng of a new jakes out of the grownde, in the back court.

"Item.—For conveyng a waye, or a lane, out of the strete, into all the forsayd offysys and schole-howse there, with fense-walls of stone.—(This way is that now called the Dark Entry.)

"Item.—A grete dore-stall, made out of the survey-howse into the kechyn court; and for makyng the water-gate next the sope-howse; and for two grete boltes of yron to anker in the joppe and the two pryncypalles at the ende of the dorter, next the lybrary. To labourers castyng (namely, emptying) the systerne, late the dorter-jakys, next the water-gate, four shillings and six-pence.

"Item.—The thirty-fifth year of Henry the eighth, for castyng of a mote next the ryver, to kepe in sygnettes, where some tyme was the friers' jakes aforesaid; and for makyng a fense-walle out of the grownd, from the north ende of the dortor to the water-gate, to fense in the mote.

"In the second year of Edward the sixth, a newe buttrace was made on the south syde of the howse, some tyme called the fermery, which was in peril of synking.

"In the first year of Elizabeth, a gret gable made at the newe hall, cost thirty-three pounds six shillings and eight-pence."*

OF THE VAULTS.

There were many large vaults, or arched cellars, whereof it seems the chief, besides those for their beer, &c., was under the library, and a part of it was called *St. Thomas*

* *Comp. Cam.*

Beckett's Chapel. Of these vaults, we find, in the thirty-fifth year of Henry the eighth, payments "for transposyng all the vowlts, makyng them warehouses, &c.; for seven new wyndows for the vowt under the south end of the dorter, and two wyndows for the vowlt under the lybrary; and for brekyng down an altar in the gret vowlt, cald Thomas Becket's Chappell, and carrying out of the stuff of the same, two shillings and three-pence."—This is the same, I think, that is after-mentioned, and called "the gret vowlt at the tenement ageynst the two elmys," which came as far as the cart-gate new made there.

Also, in the thirty-sixth year of Henry the eighth, payments for "brekyng down a gret hurdas (what it was, I know not) in the gret vowlt; makyng the new stayers out of the gret vowlt into the lytyll courte, next the chappell; and settyng a dore aloft, and stoppyng the old dore where the hurdas was."*

Towards the great charges of the corporation in these new buildings and alterations before mentioned, some persons made a voluntary contribution of money. Thus, in the thirty-fourth year of Henry the eighth, "received of dyverse men, of their benevolens, given toward the buyldyng of the newe howsys at the common hall,—namely, of T. Pykrell, Robert Farrour, A. Steward, R. Leche, and W. Rogers, aldermen, forty shillings each; Robert Rugge and E. Woode, aldermen, thirty shillings each; Thomas Codde, alderman, and John Corbet, Esq., twenty shillings each; Mr. Lawse, alderman, Thomas Cony, Thomas Marsham, William Morront, John Cutler, and Thomas Moore, ten shillings each; Mr. Castylden, late Deane of the cathedrall church, twenty shillings; Stephyn

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* *Comp. Cam.*—35 and 36 Henry VIII.

Raynbald, six shillings and eight-pence; and William Sandryngham, three shillings and four-pence—*Summa*, nineteen pounds ten shillings. And the master of the hospitall gave two grete popylls, growing in Mr. Austen Steward's meadow, in St. Vedast's paryshe.

"Item.—Of the executors of Adryan Mace, toward the buyldyng of the common hall; for that St. Georgy's brotherne dyd not drynke at his kepyng for, accourdyng to to the custome, twenty shillings.*

"Also, in the thirty-sixth year of Henry the eighth, receyved of certen aldermen and comyners, and forens, inhabytaunts within the citie, of ther benevolens towards the purchase of the comon hall, the payment of the lede, and other buyldyngs in the same—*Summa*, fifty pounds fifteen shillings and four-pence.†"

THE THIRTY-THIRD YEAR OF HENRY THE EIGTHTH.—RENTS OF THE HOUSES AND GROUNDS LATE BELONGING TO THE BLACK FRIARS, PER ANNUM.‡

"COMMON HALL.	ST. ANDREW'S.
Of William Almond, or Alman, for an annuall rent of the howses, newe buyldyd over the south gate, six shillings and eight-pence.	Thomas Gooche, late W. A., from the tenth of Jan. 1537, (29 Hen. VIII.) for eighty years, six shillings and eight-pence.
Of Thomas Wolman, for two yeres ferme of the maltyng-office there, with other grownds and houses adjoynyng, seven pounds six shillings and eight-pence.	The brew-house, from the first and second years of Philip and Mary, for fortyyears, fortyshillings.

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* *Comp. Camer.*—34 Henry VIII. † *Comp. Camer.*—36 Henry VIII.

‡ Liber Robert Myngay, 1561.

"Of John Clarke, for half-a-yere ferme of a gardeyn, now newly severed from the prechyng-yerde, and graunted him by lease, six shillings and eight-pence.

Thomas Gooche, for a parcel of the preaching-yard, from the third year of Elizabeth, for ten years, thirteen shillings & four-pence.

Of Robert Fox, for three quarters ferme of a tenement, newe buyldyd, late the ankers'-howse, one pound ten shillings.

One messuage in St. Peter's of Hungate, John Rede, from the first year of Elizabeth, for sixty years, four pounds.

GREAT GARDEN.

Of Mr. Edmund Wood, alderman, and several other persons, for the ferme of the said gret gardeyn, in several parcels: in all, nine pounds one shilling and four-pence.

An entrie at the east end of the church, Ralph Pynne, late Robert Fox, from the thirty-eighth year of Henry the eighth, for twenty years, twelve-pence.

Inter alia.—Of Henry Bakon, for a parcel of the same gardeyn, with a tenement and an howse, sometyme a chapel, parcel of the same, twenty-six shillings and eight-pence; 1561, fifty shillings.

1561.—Ten parcels together, for eleven pounds eighteen shillings and four-pence.

Item.—Of John Baker, for the ferme of a lane, with an howse on the north ende of the same lane, whyche dyd parteyne to the said Black Fryers, six shillings and eight-pence."*

1561.—Robt. Gosling, six shillings and eight-pence."

* *Comp. Camer.*—33 Henry VIII.

In the thirty-seventh year of Henry the eighth, amongst the receipts for the great garden farms:—"*Item*. Of John Rouhale Smyth, for half-a-yer's ferme of a smythi's shoppe, on the south-est corner of the said gret gardeyn, which was purchased* of Mr. John Eyer in the tyme of this account, six shillings and eight-pence.—1561, thirteen shillings and four-pence."

DISCHARGE OF HOMAGE AND FEALTY FOR THE BLACK FRIARS.

The corporation met with some trouble about the Black Friars, because (as before appears) it was granted them, to be held of the king *in capite* by knights' service, which tenure requires homage and fealty to be performed; and on the nineteenth of May, in the thirty-fourth year of Henry the eighth, was paid to Mr. Ward, town-clerk, "for the costes of the sewte for the dyscharge of the homage of the common halle, thirty-five shillings and eight-pence."† But at length they were discharged thereof, namely, at Easter Term, in the third year of Edward the sixth, as appears by record.

The king had issued a writ of *non omittas*, dated the tenth of February, in the third year of Edward the sixth, to the sheriffs of Norwich, to distrain the mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty, who held the Black Freres, so that they might appear on the Morrow of the Close of Easter, to perform homage and fealty for the premises: at which day they appeared by their attorney, and complained that they were distrained in their goods, &c. But

* In another place, it says, purchased of Dr. Manfield for eight pounds. It paid yearly seven-pence farthing to the late Priory of St. Faith's.—(This is now Captain Black's house. 1722.)

† *Comp. Camer.*—34 Henry VIII.

they said, that, "whereas they are a body politic in name and fact, composed of many persons, in which case, they neither can perform the same, nor are bound by the law of the land to do it; that therefore the said process against them was not sufficient in law to compel them to it, &c., which they are ready to verify," &c. The Barons of the Exchequer, considering the matter, discharged them,* &c.

FURTHER OF THE HALL.

The said hall is handsomely paved with good purbeck stone, which was begun in A. D. 1645. It was first agreed, at a court of mayoralty, on the thirty-first of January, 1645, that Mr. Christopher Barrett, alderman, should buy for the city three thousand purbeck stones of his sons, Peter Barrett and John Cooper, at as reasonable a price as he could; which received confirmation at an assembly, on the second of February following, when it was thus ordered:—"That purbeck stone shal be bought for the pavinge of the middle ile in the new-hall, and the work shall go on."

At another assembly, on the eighth of July, 1646, this order was made:—"The remainder of the charge for finishing the paving of the new-hall, over and besides what shall be gathered of the companies in this city, shall be borne by the city out of the treasury; and that sixty pounds be taken out for the same."

	£.	s.	d.
The Company of the Worstead Weavers gave towards the said charge of paving the hall	13	6	8
The Taylors	5	0	0
The Cordwyners	5	0	0

* Memorand. Scaccarii, de Anno 3 Regis Edward VI., videlicet, Inter Record. de termino Pasche, Rot. 12, ex parte Remem. Thesaur.—*Lib. Alb.*, f. 98.

The rest I have not met with. But I find paid out of the city treasury, in March, 1645, forty-three pounds eleven shillings and four-pence for stone, and fifteen pounds for the workmen; also, in 1646, fifty pounds, besides the sixty pounds above-mentioned.

A large brass plate was fixed in the pavement, at the upper end of the hall, with the city-arms engraved, and an inscription, showing when and by whom this pavement was begun and finished; but by the fall of the steeple, the stone was broken, and the plate thrown by, and is now lost.

Afterwards, namely, in A. D. 1658, the new-hall entry, called now the Dark Entry, was paved by the Worstead-Weavers' Company, towards which the city allowed them six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence, and the Russel Company, also, six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence.

A. D. 1676.—The arches of the granary at the new-hall were repaired, and the chimneys in the granary, in the use of Nathaniel Helwys, pulled down.—Charges forty-six pounds.*

This hall is the place where the mayor, sheriffs, and aldermen meet every Sunday, to go thence to the cathedral church, concerning which, the three following orders of the court of mayoralty have been made, namely,—

"The twelfth of June, 1661.—That the mayor and aldermen do meet at the new-hall, on Sunday next, from thence to go to Christ-Church, to hear divine service; and so to continue the same custom every Sunday.

"The eighth of November, 1662.—That the meeting of the mayor and aldermen shall, upon the Lord's-Days,

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* *Cur. Mayor.*—8 March and 10 May, 1676.

be at the new-hall in the forenoon, before prayers; and that the bridewell-man do ring the bell again, and begin at eight, and ring until they begin to ring in at Christ-Church, and then the mayor and aldermen to go thither to prayers; and he shall have six shillings a quarter for it.

"The sixteenth of November, 1681.—That the meeting of Mr. Mayor and his brethren at the new-hall, upon Lord's-Days, for the future, shall be about nine of the clock in the morning, in order to their going to the divine service and sermon at the cathedral."

Now the bell usually rings from half-an-hour past eight till nine, in which time the mayor and aldermen meet here, and at nine go to church; except on Christmas-day, Easter, &c., when they go to church in the afternoon, and then the bell rings from two till three for their meeting—the same when they meet to go to anniversary commemoration sermons. But I find that, in king Charles the first's time, they met for this purpose at the free-school; for, at a court of mayoralty, on the thirtieth of July, 1636, it was ordered,—"A carpet and half-a-dozen quishings, (cushions) to be bought for the new-hall, and a seeling and bench to be made for the stone, that the same may be fit for such meetings as shall be there appointed; also, a dozen of like quishings to be bought for the free-school, for Mr. Mayor and aldermen, their meeting there on Sonday mornings." And, as for the ringing of the bell, it is also rung daily, according to this order of the court of mayoralty, namely, on the fourth of November, 1665, ordered,—"That the keeper of bridewell do, from henceforth, cause the bell at the new-hall, to be rung at five of the clock in the morning, at one in the afternoon, and at seven at night, for a quarter of an hour at every time; and this daily, except on Sondays and holydays—and for every time that

he fails, he is to forfeit twelve-pence out of his salary." But it has not been rung at one in the afternoon for many years.—An alteration has been made, A. D. 1725, so that it rings in the morning at the time appointed for the watch to end, namely, sooner or later, according to the length or shortness of the nights.

Formerly, the hall was yearly adorned with tapestry, cloths, or hangings, against the guild-eve and guild-day; and also with the pictures of the aldermen and other benefactors to the city, which hang up in the council-chamber at the guild-hall, and which were carried back again when the guild-day was over, till A. D. 1700, when the hall was much beautified by new painting the pillars, plastering the walls, &c.; and the two rows of double benches, which were fixed on each side of the middle aisle between the pillars, were taken away and set against the walls on each side of the hall, to make it more commodious for the purpose of an exchange: then also were the rails, on which the hangings had been usually fixed, taken down, and remain so.

Concerning the said custom of hangings, I find that, on the tenth of December, 1651, Sir John Wodehouse, knight, was then sick, and to have ordered twenty pounds to be put into his will, to the city, towards hangings for the hall, for St. George's feast; and that he commaunded John Goslyn, his servaunt, one of his executors, to put into his will, that all his cloths should be lent yearly to the said use, untyll his heir shall come of age; further saying, "yf my heyer prove an honest man, he will do in that behalf as I have done.*"

And, at an assembly on the third of May, 1612, it was ordained as follows:—"Whereas, heretofore, those that

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* *Lib. Cur.*

have been chosen feast-makers have been put to much trouble in providing hangings and clothes against the feast, commonly called St. George's Feast, to hang the hall; agreed, that hereafter, every alderman (except the mayor, the new-elect, and the alderman of the feast for the time being) shall provide two sufficient cloths or hangings of tapestry or arras, each of the shreeves one, and every one of the common-council to find one, and shall deliver them to the feast-makers for the time, being eight days before the said feast; and, upon delivery, the feast-makers to give notes under their hands of the receipt of them, and if any of the cloths shall receive damage, shall make satisfaction for it."

There is a room or two on the north side of the hall, up a pair of stairs, wherein the grand jury of the city meet, and sit at the time of the assizes: at other times, the guardians of the work-house have it, except at the time of the guild-feast, when it is used by the feast-makers, if they have occasion. And I take it to be the chamber mentioned A. D. 1615, in order of court of the tenth of June, in the thirteenth year of James the first,—"That the feast-makers for that year should have the use of the dynynge-chamber at the new-hall, now used for a granary; and the corn is to be removed into the consistory for four or five days." Not only the guild-feast of St. George is kept in the hall, but also the feasts of several of the companies of the city.

At a court of mayoralty, on the nineteenth of March, 1627-8, the feast-makers of the Weavers' Company had liberty to hold their feast in the new-hall, in the south aisle thereof. The said weavers' feast grew at length to be almost as sumptuous as that of St. George, and many of the best gentry, as well of the county as of the city, were

usually invited to it; till, at length, it was so very expensive, that for some years past, it has been wholly left off.

DAYS OF THE COMPANIES' FEASTS.

Some of the said companies have, for the ornament of the hall, set up their arms in it, by leave of the court of mayoralty, which are carved in wood and painted; but the principal is that of the worstead-weavers' company, very large and fine, in the north-east corner of the hall. Besides which, are the arms of the masons, erected in 1691; the carpenters and the joiners, in 1679; and it would be very commendable in the other companies to do the like. In this hall the assizes for the city are yearly held; and courts are built, one at one end, another at the other—that at the upper, or east end, is the crown bar; the other, the *nisi prius* bar. After the assizes are ended, those bars are taken away.

The having an Exchange, or a fixed public place for the daily meeting of merchants and tradesmen to discourse about their trade, and transact business with one another, is so manifestly beneficial and convenient for facilitating and advancing trade, that (as well as at London, and some other places in England) there is scarce a large trading city in foreign parts but has such an exchange; and this new-hall of ours is so well suited for an exchange here, being seated in the heart of the city, and so large and lofty, that it is a great pity it was not continued to be one, when once and again attempted and begun. That an exchange had been kept here, A. D. 1652, appears from this order of assembly of the twenty-eighth of January, 1652,3,—"that the payment of four pounds for ringing the exchange-bell shall cease from Candlemas next."

Afterwards, namely, A. D. 1700, it was revived again; for, at a court of mayoralty, on the sixteenth of November, 1700, it is recorded as follows: namely,—"This day, Mr. Thomas Lombe, Mr. John Copping, Mr. Thomas Havers, Mr. W. H. Lombe, Mr. Thomas Bell, Mr. Timothy Greene, Mr. John Greene, and several other citizens, merchants, and tradesmen of this city, made their application to this court to have leave for the citizens, merchants, and tradesmen of this city to meet at the new-hall of this city, as a common and publick exchange, for the better promotion of the trade of this city. The time of their meeting to begin every week-day at eleven of the clock in the forenoon, and so continue till one of the clock in the afternoon; which this court, being of opinion it may be convenient for promoting the trade of this city, have, as much as in them lie, consented to and ordered accordingly." And, pursuant to this order, an exchange was held here about a year, when some persons finding, or supposing it detrimental to their private interests, (as all things for public good will be to some) and complaining to the assembly, it was caused to cease. Of late, there has been much discourse of reviving it again, which I hope will be effected, and have long continuance.—(Since begun again, by order of the assembly, at the request of many merchants and tradesmen, A. D. 1725.)

OF THE STEEPLE.

The Steeple of the Black-Friars Church stood in the midst, between that part which is now the new-hall, and the other part, which was their choir, now the Dutch church; a very fine and lofty building, six-cornered, built of flint-stone, and beautified with free-stone, with curious

carvings of arms and other ornaments within and without; and battlements of free-stone, of open and spired work, something like that of St. Andrew's steeple, but much finer.

At a court of mayoralty, on the sixteenth of May, 1668, it is mentioned, that the city had lately caused to be expended a considerable sum of money upon the repairs of the steeple at the new-hall; and agreed, that a motion be made to the Dutch congregation for providing a new clock, to be set up therein, at their charge: but, afterwards, it fell into decay, and dropt down.

"The churchyard of the Black Friars in Canterbury," (saith Mr. Somner, in his Book of the Antiquities of that City, p. 58) "is in part now become the (*Campus Martius*) artillery-ground for our young artillery-company of the city." And, in like manner, the artillery-company of the city of Norwich, which was here in the reigns of James the first and Charles the first, were used to meet and exercise their arms here.

Also, at an assembly on the tenth of July, 1641, an order was made,—"That the artillery-company shall have the lowe roome, and chamber over the same, on the east side of the porch of the south side of the newe-hall, for the placing and laying their armes for twenty-one years, if they continue so long a company, paying twenty shillings a year for the same."

Also, as well the company which was in the reign of the late king William the third, which continued not long; as also the present artillery-company, which was formed in the first year of his present majesty, king George, have used the new-hall and green-yard there for the place of their meeting and performing their exercises; and, on public days, to meet in the hall, and thence march about the city and into the market-place.

OF THE LIBRARY.

There was a design of erecting a Public Library in this city, in the reign of Edward the fourth, as appears by this legacy, in the will of John Leystofte, vicar of St. Stephen's church here, A. D. 1461, namely,—"Item. I will that, if a library be begun in Norwich, within two years after my decease, I bequeath to the same, my book called *Repyngton;*"* but whether this was effected or not, I cannot tell. However, there is now a library in the chambers over the south porch of the new-hall, which was founded A. D. 1608, and augmented by the corporation of this city, and benefactions of several of the aldermen and other gentlemen and clergymen. Hereof, I find this order of assembly, of the third of May, 1608; namely—"Ordered, with the consent of Jerrom Goodwyne, sword-bearer, that iij chambers, parcel of his dwellinge-howse, which he hath by lease of the cyttie, shal be converted to a lybrary for the use of the preachers, and for a lodging-chamber for suche preachers as shall come to this cittie, to preach on the sabboth-dayes, and at other tymes, in the common place, and elsewhere, within this cittie; where the said Jerrom Goodwyn shall fynd beddyng, lynnynge, and other necessaries for lodging, for the preachers that so shall come, during their abode in the cittie for the intent aforesaid: which said romes for the lybrary shal be made fytt at the charge of this cittie; and the said Goodwyn to allowe one of his servants to attende the preachers. In consideration whereof, the said Goodwyne shal be allowed yearly the rent which he now payeth, and his lease, notwithstanding, to stand good for the terme therein expressed." But now, as for many years past, the preachers

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* *Regist. Brosyard*, f. 272.

are entertained at a bookseller's, at the charge of the city; but dine with the mayor on the Sunday.

At an assembly on the twenty-fourth of February, 1673, 4, at the request of the ministers of this city, their monthly meeting in the library of this city is altered from the second Monday in every month to the first Tuesday in every month. And the chamberlain is to cause the doors of the presses in the city library to be taken down, and converted to shelves to set books on.

It is mentioned, A. D. 1678, that the skeleton of a man was given to the city library; and a workman was ordered to be consulted about making a case of deal for it, and to know the charge of it.* But it seems it was not made; for there is no skeleton in the library now. The monthly meetings of the trustees for the charity-schools in this city, are held at the library.

In one of the rooms next the cloister-yard was kept the sealing-office of the crown seal, for the sealing of the new commodities, or new draperies, made in this city; namely, those sorts of stuffs which were made here by the Dutch and Walloons, for which seal a small duty was paid by the weavers—which duty the city had a lease of; for, "A. D. 1579, was paid to Mr. George Delves and Mr. Fitz-Williams, two of her majesties pencioners, for the purchase of their letters patent of leas of th'alnage and subsidies of the said new commodities, two hundred and eighty pounds; and for charges about it, thirteen pounds thirteen shillings: as appears in the treasurer's or clavour's accompts of the city." As also, that "there was received by the city, of the proufittes of the said alnage and subsidie for the new commodities made in this citie, for five yeres, ending

* *Cur.*—9 January, 1677, 8.

on the twenty-second of July, 1585, as by particular accomptes, yerely taken for the same, viewyd, and yerely allowyd by the auditours, dooth appeere, six hundred and thirteen pounds nineteen shillings and eleven-pence half-penny." And particularly, I find in said accounts that there was received of the chamberlain for a remainder, upon the foot of his account, (that is, the clear profits, I suppose) for the strangers' hall,—

	£.	s.	d.
For the year ending at Michaelmas, 1581	208	16	7
..... 1582	244	19	5
..... 1583	197	1	4

And so yearly about two hundred pounds; but decreased, so that for the next two years it was only about one hundred and thirty-five pounds each; and, A. D. 1594, one hundred and fifty-nine pounds five shillings and ten-pence was received.

	£.	s.	d.
A. D. 1614.—The strangers bay and say hall	31	12	2
1619.	41	15	4
1626.	29	1	2
1628.	39	15	6
1642.	17	14	0
1643.	9	11	0

A PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF THE SEALS.

At a court of mayoralty, thirtieth of December, 1615, for the business of the crown seal, it is ordered,—"That the crown seal shall be put to every cloth for which the duties (of subsidy and alnage) are paid; and those which are good, and of sufficient length and breadth, shall have the *Arms of Norwich* on the back side, if the cloths be made in Norwich. But such as are made

in the country, being sufficient, shall have only the *Castle* without the *Lion*. And for cloths made sufficient by the strangers, they shall have the *Ship* on the back side. And for defective cloths, made in Norwich by Englishmen, they shall have *Norwich* in the ring, and the word *Defective* in the midst thereof. And cloths made defective by strangers, shall have *Alien* in the ring, and *Defective* in the midst. And for defective cloths made in the country, the seal shall have *Norfolk* in the ring, and *Defective* in the midst; and that Daniel Skinner shall perform the business of these seals till further order be taken."

At another court, twenty-fourth of May, 1616, "It is thought fit that a lease of the crown seal be taken for twenty-one years, if it may be obtained for one hundred and forty pounds per annum."

At a court, eighth of June, 1616, "Daniel Skynner is ordered to undertake the collection of the duties for the say-hall, without any other fee than the six pounds, which he has already for sealing the small wares."

And at another court, fourth of October, 1616, "committees are appointed to consider if it be fit to proceed in taking the crown seal to farm, or not.—Daniel Skinner is to be allowed for leads, three shillings and four-pence per thousand; and to have so many as he accompteth for pieces of clothes; and also ten pounds per annum for his wages.—He has brought in his accompt from the first of January to the first of April, amounting to forty pounds thirteen shillings and six-pence; from the first of April to the first of July, forty-one pounds eighteen shillings and seven-pence; and from the first of July to the first of October, twenty-eight pounds two shillings and eight-pence."

At the same court, an estimate of the profits of the crown seal was made; for it is noted, that the shopkeepers in

Norfolk and Norwich, and the dornick weavers and hosiers have compounded to pay yearly fifty-two pounds eleven shillings and ten-pence; yet some of them have not yet compounded. The russett and satten weavers are esteemed that they will yield, per annum, four pounds. Lace and gartering, statute-lace and fringe, esteemed, per annum, six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence.

Also of the charges thereupon, namely,—

The wages of Skynner as is aforesaid	£10	0	0
The collection of the duties from shopkeepers in the country	10	0	0
The leads will be about	8	0	0
The collection of the duties in the city	2	0	0

And it is thought fit by Mr. Mayor and the committees, that Mr. Francis Cooke shall be receiver of the crown seal and ship seal for one year; and the city to proceed in taking the crown seal to farm.

A lease of the crown-seal duties was accordingly taken of the Duke of Lennox for a term of years, by the city, (he having had a grant of them from the crown) for which the city was to pay him one hundred and sixty pounds per annum.* But it seems they had a hard bargain; for, at a court, on the twentieth of June, 1622, it is ordered,—

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* *C. L.*, f. 227.—By indenture, dated the tenth of February, fifteenth year of James the first, Lodowik, Duke of Lennox, Earl of Richmond and Darnley, &c.: "Whereas the King, by his letters patent and great seal of England, dated the thirteenth of April, in the eleventh year of his reign, did grant to the said Duke, his executors, administrators, and assigns, *inter alia*, for a term of years, — All that the subsedy and alnage, and farm of the subsedy and alnage, of all vendible and saleable cloth and cloths, halfe cloths, and pieces of cloth, kersyes, bayes, sayes, stuffs, draperies, and commodities whatsoever, made of wooll, part of wooll, cotton-wooll, &c., as well of the old as new draperies, made, sent, or offered to sale within the city of Norwich, and all places whatsoever within the

"that the Duke of Lennox be desired to abate of the term of the crown seal, because the city had loss by it; otherwise, it is thought fit that the lease shall be surrendered."

At the court, fourteenth of May, 1623, an order was made, "that James Odent shall have the rooms at the new-hall, late in the use of Michael Coal, and the use of the well there, paying twenty shillings per annum, and doing all such business as the said Michael Coal there did in behalf of this city and the Dutch congregation, and he to receive such duties, &c.; and shall also collect all such sums of money as shall be due to this city, for sealing of sayes with the ship-seal; and shall pay over those moneys received to the treasurer and receiver of those duties for the time being, to the use of this city."

The crown-seal-office was kept here till A. D. 1700, when, by especial labour of Mr. Thomas Lombe, the said sealing of stuffs ceased; and an agreement was made to pay eighty pounds per annum to the proprietors of that duty, which is raised amongst the weavers yearly, by which much trouble is saved, which they before had in sending their pieces to be sealed, &c.

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county of Norfolk; with the moiety of all such forfeitures and sums of money as should happen to be forfeited, touching the aforesaid cloths, &c.

"This indenture witnesseth, that the said Duke doth grant and so farm-let unto the mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty of the city of Norwich, all the aforesaid subsedy and alnage, &c., of cloths, &c., made in Norwich, and in the part of Thetford in Suffolk, for eight years, at one hundred and sixty pounds per annum."

The mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty, on the eighth of January, 1618, in the sixteenth year of James the first, appointed Samuel Mann, their deputy, for the searching and sealing of all manner of stuffs, dornick draperies, &c., within the city of Norwich, and county of the same city, with the seal called the ship-seal, and with the seal called the crown-seal, or the alnager's seal, &c.

I have also met with mention of a duty, which was paid the city, and called the dyers' seal, whereof, in the treasurer's accompt, A. D. 1583,—"Receyved of William Syer, for one yere's profyttes of the dyers' seal, endid at Crouchemas last, fourteen pounds thirteen shillings and ten-pence;" and the next year, sixteen pounds eleven shillings.—But I find nothing after. This money, probably, did arise from the fines, (and perhaps some small duty paid for sealing) which were appointed by a clause, inserted in the "lawes for the arte of diers," made at an assembly on the sixteenth of July, in the sixteenth year of Elizabeth, namely,—"Three of the straungers, with two of the Inglishe dyers, shall have the este end of the cloyster appoynted unto the said five men, as wardens and serchers for their serche—and it shall be for ther hawle; and they to be sworn before the mayor, to give attendance at the said hall, namely, in wynter and somer tyme, three days in the weke, in the forenoon, whither the commodities of playne mocadoes, grograynes, carrells or white tufts, &c., shall be brought by the makers or dyers, or their servants, to be serched; and, if found defective, they shall be fined," &c.*

I have also met with these further notes concerning sealing-halls here, namely,—

At a court of mayoralty on the fourth of June, 1636, "the bay-hall under the say-hall, at the new-hall, shall be used by the wardens of the russet company, so long as there shall be necessary occasion to do; and the room is to be emptied against Wednesday next, and warning is to be given to Ferdinando Hone to that purpose." At a court on the twenty-seventh of April, 1644, an order was made,

* See more among the Orders for the Straungers' Hawles, under the years 1571 and 1607.

"that Sir Richard Barney, baronet, shall have a great chamber, parcel of the new-hall, over the French sealing-hall, next Arnold's, for a corn-granary for three years, at forty shillings per annum."

At another court of mayoralty, on the twenty-ninth of October, 1664, a committee was appointed to view that part of the new-hall, which was formerly the bays sealing-hall, and to report the fitness of it; and what charge it will be to make it fit for the girls' hospital.

The sealing-hall of the worstead weavers' company, in the north-east angle of the cloyster, continued to be used till A. D. * * *, when some person broke in, and stole away all their stamps and books, &c.

OF THE CORN-STOCK.

According to the allegations made use of by the city, in their petition to king Henry the eighth, there were granaries made in the chambers belonging to the late black-friars, where corn was laid up against a dear time, to be then sold out cheap for the benefit of the poor. And I find that, in the thirty-sixth year of the said king's reign, the chamberlains of the city, by order of assembly, bought three hundred coombs of wheat, at ..... per coomb, "to be sold to the pore people of the city, in help of the market, for the realeff of the said pore;" for the payment whereof, thirty-nine pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence was received by the chamberlains, out of the hamper of the Guildhall.—I suppose in the treasury. The said wheat was sold out again, in the market, at five shillings, and at five shillings and four-pence the coomb.*

* *Lib. Cong. C.*, f. 188—.36 Hen. VIII.; and *Comp. Camer.*—35 Hen. VIII.

Also, in the third year of Edward the sixth, "whete sold to the poore inhabytans of the cyte, in the market, by the half-bushell, betwixt the first of March and the first of June, one hundred and eleven coombs, at six shillings the coomb—thirty-three pounds six shillings; and from the first of June to Myhelmes, eighty-nine coombs, at six shillings and eight-pence—twenty-nine pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence." Much more was sold to the bakers; so that in all, was sold this year, three hundred and eighty-one coombs, for one hundred and fifty-four pounds eighteen shillings, which cost one hundred and sixty-four pounds ten shillings and four-pencc. Also, white rye, the same year: one hundred and ten coombs sold for thirty-one pounds thirteen shillings and nine-pence, which cost thirty-eight pounds.—The loss was borne by the commonalty, except four pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence, given towards it by four persons.*

And, in the fifth year of Edward the sixth, at an assembly on the thirteenth of April, sixteen score coombs of rye, being come to the common stathe, from beyond the sea, for the provision of the citty, (which was bought in Flanders by Richard Bate, at the request of Mr. Mayor and the aldermen) hereupon four aldermen and ten commoners are appointed to assess how much every citizen shall receive of the said rye. Every alderman is to have five coombs; and they who refuse their order, to forfeit for every coomb three shillings and four-pence to the poor. The same year, "bredde was ordered to be baken of the common store of the cittie, of the grayne at the common halle, for the poor people, to be solde them." But it seems that, before the above-said corn came from Flanders, the price here was fallen.

* *Comp. Camer.*—3 Edward VI.

At an assembly on the Eve of St. Laurence, the fourth and fifth years of Philip and Mary, this order was made:—"Whereas, there doth belong and remayne to Mr. Mayor, shreves, and commonalty of the cittye, a stokke of corne, and money to provyde and bye corn, from tyme to tyme, for the provision of the cittye, to be put to sale agayn in the market to the poore, as occasion requyrith in tyme of necessytie; it is now ordeyned, that Mr. Thomas Bemond shall have the hooll order of the said stokke yerely, yelden an account thereof; and he and his depute shall have yerely for his fee, forty shillings."

At an assembly, in the second year of Elizabeth, a treasury is appointed of the corn-stock:—Mr. John Aldriche, alderman, and two others, are appointed treasurers, each of them to have a key; and if they suffer any parcel of the money to be employed about other business of the city, they are to forfeit so much.

Note.—Two surveyors of the grain were yearly chosen, one alderman and one commoner, for many years after, by the assembly. By the account of Thomas Pecke and Thomas Layer, aldermen, "of and for all suche corne and mony as do apperteyne, and ys belongyng to the stock of corne within the cittie of Norwiche, from the fifteenth of May, 1568, to the twentieth of May, 1569, it appears that, at the determination of the last accompt, the stock of wheat in the granaryes and in dyverse men's hands, was twenty-nine score, five coombs, three bushels (that is, five hundred and eighty-five coombs, three bushels)—rye, four score, thirteen coombs, three bushels, one peck (ninety-three coombs, three bushels, one peck)—mestelyn, thirty-five coombs—and in money, one hundred and eighteen pounds nineteen shillings and two-pence.

N. B.—Wheat was then selling at six shillings and eight-pence per coomb, and rye at five shillings.

It appears also, in the said account, that Mr. Thomas Graye, alderman, had bequeathed to this stock, six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence; and Mr. William Myngaye, twenty coombs of wheat—both which were not then paid.

At another assembly, A. D. 1576, agreed, "that there shall be a chiste bought and prepared for the grayne-stock; and the money that belong to the same stock to be always kept in the same chiste, which chist shall remayne in the treasury."

At a court of mayoralty on the thirtieth of August, in the twenty-third year of Elizabeth, "Mr. Mayor called the bakers of this citie before him, and hath appoynted them to take of the cities store, eight score coombs of wheat at eleven shillings, and sixty-four coombs of rye at six shillings and eight-pence the coomb."

At an assembly on the twentieth of January, in the thirty-seventh year of Elizabeth, ordered, "that three hundred and eighteen pounds be delyverd out of the corn-stock, to buy rye at Danske, for the provision of the citie."

At a court of mayoralty on the twentieth of January, in the forty-first year of Elizabeth, a letter of deputation was made to William Chambers of Reach, and Ralph, his brother, to buy and provide for the city, the quantity of three hundred and twenty coombs of wheat, according to the counsel's letters.

At another court on the seventh of February, in the forty-first year of Elizabeth, the bakers, aliens, were ordered to buy their corn at the new-hall granary only, till further orders.

A. D. 1614.—The city corn was baked, and sold out of the granary; and at a court on the fourth of May, it is noted, that the four-penny wheat loaf of bread, baked at the new-hall, weighed sixty-eight and a half ounces, and

the two-penny loaf, thirty-four ounces: and so, several weeks after, the weight is noted; and also to 1616.

At a court of mayoralty on the second of July, 1631, "thought fit that Mr. Tompson and Mr. Gooch shall give to Mr. William Gostlin, (surveyor of the granary) for all the corn in the granary, after the rate of thirty shillings for wheat; for rye, twenty-five shillings the coomb; and for barley, sixteen shillings the coomb. And the said Mr. Tompson and Mr. Gooch shall sell the corn in the granary in this manner, namely,—thirty-three coombs a week to such (poor) persons as the aldermen shall appoint; one part wheat, one part rye, and one part barley, at sixteen shillings the coomb."

A. D. 1635.—Two hundred pounds of the corn-stock was laid into the treasury, sealed up by Mr. William Gostlin, alderman, treasurer of the said stock: the same was remaining there in 1640; and was paid to the said Alderman Gostlin, the twenty-second of February, 1641.*

Also, at a court on the twelfth of December, 1646, ordered, "that the treasurers of the corn-stock shall, from henceforth, sell meslyn, two-thirds rye, and one-third wheat, at three shillings and eight-pence a bushell: but no bare rye or wheat, till further order." And it is ordered, on the twenty-eighth of December, "that the meslyn shall be sold at three shillings and four-pence the bushel, and wheat at nineteen shillings the coomb."

At another court, on the twenty-second of July, 1648, ordered, that "the clavours shall receive one hundred and fifty pounds, part of the moneys belonging to the corn-stock, and lay the same into the treasury, att the request of Mr. Page, one of the treasurers of the said stock," which was paid in accordingly, on the twenty-fourth of July, 1648; and on the eighteenth of November, ordered, "that

* *Lib. Clav.*

Mr. Page lay in forty coombs of rye into the granary, at twenty-one pounds a score, and to be sold to the poor.

It seems most part of the stock was made use of in the time of the civil wars, for military occasions; and therefore, in order to raise another, it is mentioned that, at a court of mayoralty, on the thirteenth of October, 1655, "Mr. Joseph Payne doth promise to lend twenty pounds, for five years, towards a corn-stock; Mr. John Man doth likewise promise twenty pounds; Mr. William Barnham, twenty pounds; Mr. Barnard Church, twenty pounds; and Mr. Thomas Ashwell, ten pounds, for the like time:" and, in 1657, the granary was repaired, and a new roof set upon it.*

And, at a court on the eighteenth of February, 1664, 5, "Mr. Robert Rosse, of St. John's at Tymberhill, sent up to the court, by the hands of Mr. Sheriff Chickering, ten pounds, which he desired should be added to the corn-stock of this city, as his free gift."

At a court on the twenty-seventh of August, 1666, one hundred pounds, belonging to the corn-stock, was lent, to be used for the infected poor—the same to be repaid.

And at a court on the second of June, 1669, it is mentioned, "that all the corn in the granary was sold now to Daniel Winter, which comes to two hundred and two pounds one shilling and eight-pence."

Twelve pounds were paid into the hamper for the poor, being two years' interest of the corn-stock.*

Mr. Alderman Warkhouse paid into the hamper, seven pounds ten shillings for a year's interest of one hundred and fifty pounds of the corn-stock money, due at Michaelmas last.*

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* *Cur.*—5 Sept., 1657. † *Cur.*—19 Nov., 1681. ‡ *Cur.*—11 June, 1695.

The increase of tillage has made such stock less serviceable than formerly, when dearths frequently happened, which, for many years, we have known nothing of in England.

BENEFACTORS TO THE CORN-STOCK.

Mr. William Castylton, the last prior, and first dean of the cathedral church of Norwich, by his last will, bequeathed, "for a stock of corn to contynew for ever, one hundred quartours of goode wheate to be laid in the chambers at the new-hall; and then the poor folks, when wheat is deare in the market, that they may have under the price of the market, and at the discrecion of the mayor and aldermen for the time being,*" &c.

At a court on the fourteenth of December, in the third year of Edward the sixth, John Reve of Norwich, mercer, his executor, gave security for delivering the said wheat; for which he had an acquittance, at an assembly on the fifteenth of February, in the eighth year of Elizabeth.†

Mr. Edmund Wood, alderman, about A. D. 1548, bequeathed for provision of wheat, forty pounds.

Thomas Graye, alderman, about 1557, bequeathed to the granary of the common-hall, for relief of the poor in time of dearth, six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence.‡

Mr. Thomas Codd, alderman, bequeathed twenty pounds towards the building of the new granary, which was paid by Thomas Peck, alderman, and Thomas Layer.§

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* *Lib. Benef. Civit.*

† *Cong.*—26 Sept., 1 Mary.

‡ *Lib. Benef.*

§ *Comp. Camer.*—7 Elizabeth.

Mrs. Katheryn Rogers, widow of William Rogers, alderman, gave "one hundred marks towards the buying of grayne, to be solde ageyn to the poor within the citie of Norwich, at reasonable rates paid.*"

Mr. Thomas Parker, alderman, about A. D. 1569, bequeathed "to this augmentacion of the corne-stocke, ten coombes of wheat, or else in money three pounds six shillings and eight-pence.†"

Mr. William Ferrour, alderman, bequeathed to the stock of the grain, five pounds, about A. D. 1577, which was paid on the twenty-fifth of January, in the twenty-third year of Elizabeth, by Richard Ferrour, his son and executor.‡

Mr. Nicholas Layer, alderman, about A. D. 1596, bequeathed for the increasing of the grain-stock, five pounds, which was paid by Mr. Thomas Layer, his executor, on the thirteenth of June, 1599.§

The interest of the corn-stock has been for many years paid by the chamberlain, and distributed to the poor of the city by the several aldermen.

OF THE MEETING-HOUSES OF DISSENTERS HERE.

After the granaries were disused from being store-houses of corn, and king Charles the second had granted indulgence to dissenters to hold their meetings public, the Presbyterians had a granary on the east side of the cloister-yard, and the Independents one on the west side, to meet in for performance of their worship. It is noted, at a court of mayoralty on the twenty-seventh of November, 1672, that the officers of the Independent

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* *Congr.*—25 April, 3 Elizabeth. † *Lib. Benef.*
‡ *Cur.*—25 January, 23 Elizabeth. § *Lib. Benef.*

congregation in the new-hall brought in twenty-five shillings and four-pence, collected there for the relief of one Cotton's child, &c.; also, three pounds eleven shillings and eight-pence farthing was brought in by the officers of the Presbyterian congregation at the other granary.

After the Presbyterians and Independents had built meeting-houses on the other side of the water, the Anabaptists had, till late years, the use of the granary on the east side of the yard; and a few years ago, for some time, one part of the Independents had again the other on the west side, which had been the Romish chapel, namely, during the time of some differences that were in their congregation about choosing a minister: but now they all meet again at their own meeting-house.

OF THE WORK-HOUSE HERE.

The governor and corporation of the Work-house, lately established in this city by act of parliament, have hired of the city, by lease, several of the rooms belonging to the said late monastery of the black-friars, wherein some people are set to work, and provision is made for employing more of them. Something like this was intended to be done about a hundred years ago; for I have met with these orders of the court of mayoralty, namely,—

"The tenth of November, 1625.—The aldermen of every ward are desired to consider of a fitting man in every ward, to take upon him the setting of poor people on work, who cannot set themselves on work; and to see to the performance of the same work, and to fetch and carry the same.

"The twelfth of November.—The great kitchen at the new-hall is appointed a place to set the poor on work in.

"The second of December.—Beggars, able to work, to be punished."

Part of the black-friars' precinct is in St. Peter's Hungate, and the rest at St. Andrew's parish.*

OF THE SACK FRIARS.

Before I proceed to the account of the other orders of friars, I shall mention that of the friars of the penance, (*de penitentia*) or repentance of Jesus Christ, or Sack Friars, because they had the place in Norwich where the black-friars afterwards made that second monastery, as before has been touched.

A. D. 1251.—The order of the friars of the penance was instituted at Marseilles, in France.†

A. D. 1257.—The said new order appeared in London, of friars unknown, and not seen before, who, because they went clothed in sacks, were called *fratres saccati*, or sack-friars. And so many orders were then sprung up, that there seemed to be a confusion of orders, so that these supplanted those; and, on the contrary, they them again. Nor were the people able, as they had been used, to support them with alms.‡

The *fratres de sacco*, or sack-friars, gathered together many and good scholars at Cambridge; and were very

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* MEMORANDUM.—Upon a controversy in the bishop's court, between the parishes of St. Peter of Hungate and St. Andrew, concerning the inhabitants of the dissolved black-friars, it was decreed on the twenty-fifth of January, 1619,—"That Richard Mann and all his family, and future inhabitants of the house he built there, and all other inhabitants of the houses on the east side of the said monastery northward, should belong to St. Peter Hungate. Henry Woods and nine others, named to St. Andrew's.—*Lib. Cur. Consistor.*

† *Chron. Calvis.* ‡ *M. Paris, and Bale, Cent.*, 4: 26. ex eo.

much multiplied, until the council of Lyons, wherein the Roman Pontiff decreed, that the mendicant friars should not for future receive any persons to their order, excepting the preachers, minors, and carmelites; and, if they would, he gave them licence to enter into *religiones laxiores*, less strict orders. From that time, all the mendicant friars began to decrease from day to day, and were reduced to nothing, the preachers excepted.*

Within a few years after that these sack friars came into England, some of them came to Norwich, and settled themselves in the parish of St. Peter of Hungate, in a house next the river, which was given them by Mr. William de Gissinge, clerk, whereupon certain articles were agreed on and indented between them and the rector of St. Peter's church, A. D. 1275, of the following tenor:—

"To all the Sons of Holy Mother Church, who shall see or hear this present writing, Symon, rector of the church of St. Peter of Hundegate, in Norwich, greeting, in the Author of Health,—being desirous to augment divine worship, I will that it come to your knowledge, that I have granted, and by this my present charter confirmed and entirely quit-claimed to the friars of the penance of Jesus Christ, dwelling in my parish, and to their successors for me, and my successors for ever, by the will and express assent of the dean and chapter of the church of St. Mary in the Fields, that it may freely be lawful to them into that ground, which they have of (*ex collatione*) the gift of Mr. William de Gissinghe, clerk, which lies in the before-mentioned parish of St. Peter of Hundegate, or other grounds whatsoever, to the aforesaid grounds adjacent, which they can purchase in the aforesaid parish of the gift or grant, of any person whatsoever, to enter and

* *L. Col., el* I., p. 633, *ex Libro Bernewell Cænob.*

to retain freely, without the contradiction of any person. So nevertheless, that when it shall happen that the said friars shall by gift, purchase, or the grant of any person, enlarge their place in the said parish, there shall be chosen four (*viri fide digni*) men of reputation, on the part of the said friars and on our part, according to whose arbitration the said friars shall keep the said church of St. Peter of Hundegate indemnified. And moreover, in the same parish, to erect an oratory, or monastery, and steeple, and solemnly to celebrate divine service there, and to ring bells, and to have sepulture, and to bury there regular and secular persons, the parishioners of the said church excepted, unless they shall choose to be there buried; and to do and exercise all other things there, which can or are known to belong to a free oratory or monastery, without the contradiction of me, or of my successors, without all claim, demand, or exaction against the said friars, by reason of oblations, tithes, or any other profits whatsoever, arising from the said grounds, which now or in time to come may belong to us by any manner of law (*jure*), reserving or retaining to us no parochial right in the abovesaid grounds, by occasion of the before-mentioned church of St. Peter; and without any exaction or molestation, which, by the common or parochial law, might competently be done or moved. This being expressly (*acto*) agreed, that it shall not be lawful for the said friars to admit the parishioners of the aforesaid church to the ecclesiastical sacraments, nor to administer the same sacraments to them; but, lest that the said donations and grants should seem to infer the (*dispendium*) expence of an alienation injurious to us and our successors, and also to the said church, therefore, that the said church may the better be provided for, and the indemnity thereof the more fully be consulted, the aforesaid friars have caused to be

assigned to the before-named church, and to every rector of the same church, three shillings of yearly rent to be received, namely, out of a certain messuage with its appurtenances, which Ralph de Couteshale, tanner, holds in Norwich, in the parish of St. Edmund of Fisseregate, which is between the void ground which Agnes Herman holds in the name of Dowry, whose south head abuts on the king's way; as in the charter of feoffment thereupon made, (the copy of which, signed without seal, remains with the said friars) is more fully contained.

"And also, the said friars have given to the before-mentioned rector, two marks of silver, for purchasing a rent of two shillings, to the use of the said church. But, that the aforesaid grant may be maintained in the greater force, we have procured the present grant to be confirmed by the venerable father, Roger, by the grace of God, Bishop of Norwich. In testimony of which thing, to this present writing, made in the manner of a chirograph, whereof the one part remains with the said friars, we have affixed our seals; and the prior of the said friars to the part which remains with us, hath affixed his seal. These being witnesses:—Mr. Godfrey le Gros, then official of the consistory of Norwich; Mr. William de St. Faith's; William Payn; Henry de Norwich, clerk; Roger de Swerdestone and Adam le Especer, then bailiffs of Norwich; William de Dunwich, William le Cant, Hugh the Tonsor, Roger de Rising, William Picoth, Geffrey the Tyler, John Bate, John le Leyner, William Basrun, Nicholas de Heleython, Roger the Clerk, and others. Done at Norwich, in the month of May, M. CC. LXXI.

Seal of the said Rector;
Seal of Chapplyfield Cottage; and
Seal of the said Bishop.*"

* *Autograph, in Guildhall.*

But, by another deed, it appears that these friars were seated here about four years before, namely, in some house or houses adjacent, in St. Andrew's parish; on which account, William de Dunwich granted a rent of four shillings yearly to the rector of St. Andrew's church, and his successors and their assigns for ever, for the indemnity of the same church, payable out of a messuage in Newport, which Henry, the son of Alane le Cordewainer, then held, abutting on the king's way south. The said deed begins thus:—

"To all the Sons of Holy Mother Church, who shall see or hear the present writing; Geffrey, called Le Brun, rector of the church of St. Andrew and St. Christopher, in Norwich, greeting, in the Author of Salvation. Know ye all, that I have inspected a charter of William de Dunewico, and Katherine his wife, in these words: Know all men present and to come, that I, William de Dunewico, and Katherine my wife, by unanimous assent, have granted and given, and by this our present charter confirmed, (*caritatis intuitu*) in way of charity, to the rector of the church of St. Andrew of Norwich, for the indemnity of the same church, four shillings, &c., as before mentioned; to be paid by twelve-pence at each of the four terms of the year."

The witnesses are A. de Toftes, N. de Ely, Roger de Swerdestone, and N. de Eston, then bailiffs of Norwich (who were bailiffs in A. D. 1267), Peter Butt, William Picot, &c.

And then it concludes thus:—"But this charter, or deed, remaining with the friars of the Order of the Penance of Jesus Christ, I have sealed with my seal (*signo meo signavi*), the aforesaid witnesses being present."*

I have seen a piece of the instrument of formal

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* *Autograph, in Guildhall.*

composition made the same year with them by the rector of St. Andrew and St. Christopher, in manner of the foregoing, for St. Peter of Hundgate; and the whole compensation was nine shillings per annum, namely, five shillings out of one messuage, and four shillings out of the other.—It is impaired by wet, &c., and half lost.*

And, in a few years, these friars obtained by gift or purchase, several other messuages and tenements adjoining, in the said parishes of St. Peter and St. Andrew, especially in the latter; so that at length, they had about half of that checker of building which afterwards the black friars had, and now belongs to the new-hall as aforesaid; namely, all that part of it which lay between the river north and a lane south, which, in old time, ran through the midst of the checker from east to west, saving a tenement and stathe at the north-west corner, near black-friars' bridge, which afterwards was purchased by the friars last mentioned.

The messuage which lay next this tenement towards the south, was the last acquisition of the friars of the penance, so far as I can find. For, A. D. 1285, John de Vallibus, son of Oliver de Vallibus, granted to God and to the Church of Blessed Mary, and to the Friars of the Repentance of Jesus Christ, in the parish of St. Andrew, of Norwich, there serving God, and to their successors, in perpetual alms, for the health of his soul and of the souls of his successors, one messuage with its appurtenances, lying between the (*domicilium*) mansion of the said friars towards the east, and king's way, which leads (*apud*) by Newbrigge, in part and in parcel of the tenement of William Butt (*ut patet in priore Carta*) west; one head

* *Autograph, in Guildhall.*

whereof abutts on the tenement of the aforesaid friars south, and the other head upon the king's river, in part and in parcel of the said tenement of William Butt, north—to have and to hold of him and his heirs, &c., in perpetual alms for ever, paying yearly to him and his heirs, one rose, at the Feast of St. John the Baptist; and to the landgable of our lord the king, one half-penny, for all services, &c. Witnesses, P. de Pagrave, R. de Tudenham, William Knot, and William de Refham, then bailiffs of Norwich, William de Rollesby, Roger de Wyleby, WilliamPage, &c.—The seal is an escutcheon, checky.

By the said deed, it appears that the church of the said friars was dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

But these friars going quickly to decay, William de Hoo, who, it seems, was their prior, or rather the only friar of them then remaining, regranted this messuage to the Lady Petronilla de Nerford, daughter of the said Sir John de Vallibus, and she thereupon granted it to him during such time as he should live there: afterwards, she granted it to the friars preachers, which was confirmed to them by William Ros de Hamalec, and Maud his wife, (probably another daughter) as appears by the following extracts of the deeds:—"I, William de Hoo, Friar of the Penance of Jesus Christ, have granted, &c., and for ever quit-claimed to the Lady Petronilla de Nerford, her heirs and assigns, all the tenements, with buildings, stathes, and all their appurtenances, which Sir John de Vallibus granted to me, and to my fellow friars serving God in the said order, so that neither I, nor any one in my name, nor by me, nor for me, any right, title, &c., shall be able to claim in the premises from henceforth for ever.

"Dated at Norwich, on the Monday next after the Feast of All-Saints, in the first year of king Edward, the son of king Edward."

Seal: St. Edmund the king, bound to a tree and shot full of arrows, circumscribed "*S. Prioris Ordinis Frm. de pnia, Ihu* x^{i} *de Norwic.*

"A convention, made between the Lady Petronilla de Nerford, on the one part, and William de Hoo, Friar of the Penance of Jesus Christ, on the other part. The said Petronilla hath granted, delivered, and demised to the said Friar William, all those tenements aforesaid, to have and to hold so long as he shall dwell in that habitation; so that, after the decease or departure of the said Friar William from the habitation aforesaid, the aforesaid tenements may remain to the said lady, her heirs and assigns for ever." This is dated at Norwich, on the Saturday after the Feast of St. Andrew, in the year aforesaid.

Seal, imperfect: seems to be a lion rampant

"We, William de Ros de Hamelac, and Matilda my wife, have granted, and from us and our heirs for ever quit-claimed to God and Blessed Mary, and to the Friars Preachers of Norwich, there serving God, all that tenement, &c., as before.

"Dated at Penteneye, on the Monday next after the Feast of St. Matthias the Apostle, in the year aforesaid."*

Seal: three water bougets, of old form.

"I, Petronilla de Nerford, daughter of Sir John de Vallibus, in my pure widowhood, for me and my heirs for ever, have granted and quit-claimed to God and Blessed Mary, and to the Friars Preachers of Norwich, there serving God, all that tenement which the Friars of the Penance of Jesus Christ some time held of the said Sir John de Vallibus, to have and to hold to the said friars preachers and their successors in pure and perpetual alms for ever.

* 2 Edward II.

"Dated the Sunday next after the Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist, in the second year of king Edward, the son of king Edward."

The witnesses to the aforesaid last two deeds, are Sir William de Kerdistone, Sir Reginald le Gros, Sir Thomas Bardolf, knights; Robert de Welholm, William Butt, John de Gonthorp, and Henry de Heylisdone.

All the rest of the buildings and monastery of the sack-friars was, about the same time, granted to the friars preachers, as has been before noted: therefore, now let us pass to another order.

OF THE GREY FRIARS.

These friars came first into England about A. D. 1219, when Francis, their founder, sent one Friar Agnetus de Pisa and others hither, to spread his sect.*

The Grey Friars came first to inhabit in Norwich, A. D. 1226, having made their first appearance in England the same year, according to Bale, or two years before, as Leland hath it. These were so called from the colour of their habit, but were also named *Friars Minors*, *Grey Friars*, *Menours*, *Mynours*, (or *Minorites*) and *Franciscans*. The account which the Popish writers give of their original, is briefly this, namely, "That A. D. 1203, Francis (*Seraphicus*) the Seraphic, an Italian, born at Assisium, a city of the Umbrians, a disciple of John the Good, a man truly divine, and father and captain of the Minorites, this year, despising altogether earthly things, followed Christ in all his life; for when he had received the habit of religion from the said John the Good, he presently constituted a new order, and, as we may say, (says the friar) a celestial form of life, whereby, as the sun shining on the world, he

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* *Antiquities of English Franciscans*, printed A. D. 1726, p. 5.

greatly illuminated the Christian religion: also, he, with his friars, published a new Rule for the Articles of Faith. He was marked with the wounds of Christ, and composed a certain book, which he entitled the '*Short Testament.*' In 1224, Pope Honorius, on the third kalends of December, (*difficillime tandem*) with much difficulty, at length approved and confirmed the Order of the Minors. For the ancient enemy had known that this order would be very much to the profit of the church of God, and therefore he greatly resisted it, and laboured to bring it to nought. For whereas this order sprung as a river from Father Augustine, a most excellent fountain, as I may call him, I judge, says my author, that it may deservedly be compared with the river Euphrates; for the river Euphrates denotes fruitful, and most worthy of remembrance among the other rivers of the world; and so this order, although amongst the mendicants, as Euphrates among the four rivers of paradise, is reckoned the last, nevertheless, both in number and (*fructu plurimo*) great profit, is accounted memorable and famous."

The said Francis died A. D. 1227, at Assisium; and two years afterward, Pope Gregory the ninth, having heard of his frequent miracles, enrolled him in the number of the holy confessors, says the friar, my author.*

This, the subtle Francis, if you please to believe it, knew long before hand. For in the *Legenda aurea* before cited, fol. 112, 113, and 114, we have the lying history of him; in the beginning of which we are told,—that Francis, with many others, being upon a time taken and put in a streight prison by the Perusians, they lamented it, but he alone rejoiced; and that, being thereupon rebuked by his fellow captives, he answered, "know ye that, therefore,

* *Supplementum Supplementi Chronicarum.*

I rejoice, because I shall hereafter be adored throughout the whole world."

Many other strange things you find there storied of him; as that, upon his entering into the church of St. Damian to pray, the image of Christ miraculously spoke to him, saying, "Francis, repair earnestly my house, which, as thou seest, is all destroyed." From that very hour his soul was melted, and a compassion for the crucifix was wonderfully fixed in his heart.

He loved poverty so much in himself and in others, that he always called poverty his lady. But when he saw any person poorer than himself, he presently envied him, and feared to be overcome or outdone by him.

And that the devil sent him a great temptation of the flesh, which the man of God perceiving, he put off his clothes, and beat himself with an exceeding hard cord, saying, "Ah, brother ass! so it becomes thee to remain; so to submit to the rod." But the temptation not removing, he ran out of the house, and threw himself naked into the snow; and having made seven snow-balls, he began thus to speak to his body:—"See," says he, "this biggest is thy wife; four are thy two sons and two daughters; and the other two are thy man and thy maid: make haste, therefore, and clothe them all, for they die with cold." Presently the devil, being confounded, departed; and the man of God returned to his cell.

Another time, the devils came by night and whipped him most grievously. Another time, the servant of God saw in a vision the crucifix above the seraphim, who imprinted the marks of his crucifixion so evidently upon him, that he also seemed to be a crucifix; for his hands, and feet, and side were marked with the sign of the Cross. But he concealed those marks diligently from the eyes of

men, yet some saw them whilst he was alive; but, in his death, many: and that they were true marks or wounds, is shewn by many miracles.

But there are so many of these fooleries, that we cannot mention half of them, so shall pass by the stories of his healing a man after he was mortally wounded in the body, and had a sword thrust through his throat; his preaching to the birds; their obedience to him; his exhorting a grasshopper to sing God's praise, calling her and the birds his sisters, and inviting the sun, and moon, and stars to the love of their creator; his turning water into wine, and a bag of money to a serpent; a leg of a capon turned a fish, and then back again. And of one of his friars, seeing the soul of Francis upon his death appearing like a star, as big as the moon and as bright as the sun; of a woman, who died without confession, and was therefore going to hell, but that, St. Francis praying for her, her soul returned to her body as they were carrying her to the grave, and staid till she was confessed, and then she died again in peace: dead, raised upon prayers to him, &c.

We find, afterwards, that these friars were deservedly cheated of a vast sum of money by the pope; for Matthew Westminster relates,—"That, A. D. 1299, the friars minors, aspiring after things unlawful by their law, offered to the pope four hundred thousand florins of gold, and a vast sum of money besides, for obtaining his grant, that they might lawfully acquire lands, and tenements, and rents." The Lord Pope thereupon asked them "where," says he, "is that money of yours?"—they answered, "in the hands of the merchants:" and thereupon, fixing the time of three days to give the friars their answer, the Lord Pope absolved the merchants from the charge of it, and commanded, under threatening of anathema, that the said

money should be kept for his own necessities; and gave the friars for answer, that he would in nowise violate the established rule of St. Francis, nor suffer the friars to decline from it,* &c."

Bale has noted the following distich on these friars:—

"Cordula nodosa, pes nudus, cappa dolosa:
Hœc tria nudipedes ducunt ad Tartara Fratres."†

The monastery of the grey friars, in Norwich, was situated near the north end of Conisford-street, and, with the gardens and grounds belonging to it, extended from the *quondam* churchyard of St. Cuthbert north, to (or near to) the lane leading from the corner, called now the Rose-corner, towards the river south; and from the said street west, to the lane called Nether Conesford, now St. Vedast's-lane, east. A large parcel of ground, and of a very pleasant situation.—One gate of their monastery remains to be seen, which opened into the south end of Sevencote-row; but the principal gate seems to have been in Conisford-street, opposite the Griffin. "The grey friars in Norwich," saith Mr. Weever, "was founded by one John Hestinford, and of this foundation I find no further."‡

And it mattered not his finding of that; for it is certainly a mistake. I know it is so set down in the Catalogues of the Religious Houses suppressed by Henry the eighth; but, as I have no where else met with the name, and there is no such town in Norfolk,§ nor England, that I can find, from whence the name should be taken, I guess the name is mistaken for one John de Cunisford. However, I have not met with the exact time of their beginning to settle at this place; but find that, about the

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* Matthew Westminster. † Bale, *Script. Cent.*, III., 57.

‡ *Weever's Funer. Mon.*

§ Though sometimes names are taken from particular places in a town.

thirteenth year of Edward the first, the said friars enclosed a lane near their mansion.*

This I take to have been the lane which the records of the cathedral church mention to have lain in old time between St. Cuthbert's churchyard and the monastery of the said friars, and was called Bewgate; also, in a leet-roll of the eighteenth year of Edward the first, the capital pledges of Conesford presented that the friars minors had appropriated to themselves many tenements, which were used to pay landgable to our lord the king.†

But two years after, namely, A. D. 1292, the said friars, in order to obtain the king's license of mortmain for several tenements and grounds, procured a writ of *ad quod dampnum*, namely,—

"Edward, by the Grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Aquitaine, to the Sheriff of Norfolk, greeting. We command you that, by the oath of good and lawful men of your bailiwick, by whom the truth of the matter may best be known, you diligently inquire whether it would be to the damage of us, or of others, if we should grant that John le Grocer, &c., may give or assign to the friars minors, &c. Witness myself, at Culford, the first day of May, in the twentieth year of our reign." By virtue of which writ, the following inquisition was taken and returned:—

"An inquisition, made by Geffrey de Bungeye, Robert de Westone, Robert de Wymondham, Henry le Rus, Thomas Hungham, Walter le Chaucer, Hugh de Wymondham, William le Taverner, John de Reppes, Ranulph le Pissuner, Simon le Parchemyner, and Geffery de Salle,

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* *Fratres Minores de Norwic. de Venella, prope mansum includend.* *Esch.*—13 Edward I.

† *Rot. Lete Conesf.*—18 Edward I.

citizens of Norwich, who say upon their oath, that John le Grocer holds in Norwich nine perches of land in length and four perches in breadth.

	IN LENGTH. Perch.	Ft.		IN BREADTH. Perch.	Ft.
(a) John le Crocer (*al.* Grocer) ...	9	0	and	4	0
Item. (b) Adam de Stonhous	9	0	...	3	7
Item. (c) Richard de Fornsete	4	5	...	0	33
Item. (d) The Prior of St. Faith's	4	0	...	0	33
Item. *** The Prior and Convent of Norwich	8	0	...	4	5
Item. (e) Mabilia del Cavet (or, de la Cauwet)	11	0	...	4	0
Item. (f) Thomas de Stanfeld	7	16	...	0	30
Item. (g) The Abbot and Convent of St. Benedict de Hulmo	5	3	...	3	15
Item. (h) Alexander de la Sarteryn and Thomas de Wymundham ...	0	50	...	0	37
Item. (i) Roger de Marescall	7	5	...	4	12
Item. (n) Roger de Morleye	11	7	...	5	17
Item. (m) William Justice and Robert his brother	11	0	...	3	10
Item. (o) John de Wyttone (*als.* Wyltone)	3	15	...	0	30
Item. (p) Goda de Lodne	4	0	...	2	12
Item. (q) William de Colneye	7	9	...	3	12

Which tenements aforesaid are all void; but when they were built, they were used to pay yearly to the farm of the bailiffs of Norwich, six-pence. They say also, that—

	IN LENGTH. Perch.	Ft.		IN BREADTH. Perch.	Ft.
(k) Godfrey Pikard holds	4	5	and	2	6
Item. (l) Giles le Peyntour	7	16	...	3	0
Item. (r) *William le Wirly	7	9	...	3	17

* The letters a, b, c, &c., prefixed to the names above, denote only the order wherein they are mentioned in the writ of *ad quod Dampnum*, which was the order they lay in. Accordingly, the friars obtained a letter of mortmain for the above-mentioned grounds, though I have not met with it.

And pays yearly to the hospital of Kerbrok, twelve-pence, which three tenements aforesaid are built, and pay yearly to the farm of the bailiffs of Norwich, one penny. They say also that all the tenements aforesaid are held in *capite* of our lord the king, except the aforesaid tenement of William le Wyrly.

They say also that it is not to the damage or prejudice of the king, or of any person, if the king should grant to the aforesaid tenants, that they might give and assign to the beloved in Christ, the friars minors of Norwich, to have and to hold to them and their successors for ever. They say also that all the other tenements remaining to the said tenants, over and above the donations aforesaid, are sufficient to bear and perform all other charges which they have used, as in suits, views of frank pledge, aids, talliages, &c.

But the prior and convent of Norwich did not give the friars the ground above mentioned, whatever the others did; but the friars were obliged to purchase or acquire certain messuages for them in lieu of it, for which, the same year another writ of *ad quod Dampnum* was issued in behalf of them. Witness the king, at Stibenhethe, (now Stepney, near London) the fifteenth of April, in the twentieth year of his reign. Accordingly, an inquisition was made, and it was found not to be to the damage of the king, &c., if he should grant licence to certain persons to assign tenements and rent to the prior and convent of Norwich, namely,—Ralph Nockes, one messuage; Thomas de Stanfeld, one messuage; Robert de Sprouston, chaplain, one messuage; and Adam de Saham, four shillings of yearly rent.

Whereupon, the king, by his charter, gave licence to the said Ralph Nockes, &c., to give and assign the said

messuages and rents to the said prior and convent; so that the aforesaid prior and convent should pay yearly to the said king and his heirs, by the hands of the bailiffs of Norwich, to the farm of the said town, one penny half-penny. Witness the king, at Berwicke upon Twede, the tenth day of June, in the twentieth year of his reign.

But the prior and convent of Norwich gave the friars all the trouble and charge about it that they could, and would not accept these grants with any incumbrance, though with so small a rent as three half-pence.

And therefore, the friars persuaded one Richard de Fornsete to oblige his messuage for payment, and exhibited the following petition, in French, to the king:—"*Pur ceo ke nre Seigneur le Roi*," &c. "Forasmuch as our Lord the King, for the salvation of his soul, hath by his charity granted to Ralph Nockes, Thomas de Stanfeld, Robert de Sprowston, and Adam de Saham, that they may give to the prior of Norwiz, three messuages and four shillings of rent in Norwiz, for the which, the prior hath granted to the friars minors some tenements, for which he hath the charter, or licence, of our lord the king; and the said prior will not suffer these exchanges, unless the messuages and the rent be first granted to the bishop of Norwiz, without charge of rent, in free pure and perpetual alms; and that he, in like form, may grant the messuages and rent to the prior. But that the three half-pence of rent may be saved to our lord the king, which the said messuages and rent owe yearly to his farm, Richard de Fornsete, burgess of Norwiz, hath granted at the Exchequer, for himself and his heirs, to pay the said three half-pence; and that his tenements shall be charged therewith without end, into whose hands soever they shall come. And forasmuch as the friars have begun their church in the

place which the prior granted them, in hope of the grace of our lord the king, who is inclined to maintain and enhance holy church, the friars pray him, that if he please, will grant that the charter before granted in form aforesaid, may be changed; or else they must pull down their church, and deliver to the prior his land again."

Another petition, in Latin, to the same effect, (*Supplicant dno Regi*)—"The Friars of the Order of Minors of Norwich, supplicate our lord the king, that, whereas the prior of Norwich hath granted them a certain place, contiguous to the (*area*) ground of the same friars, for the enlargement of their (*area*) ground in Norwich, by the king's licence, and by his letters patent thereupon made. And the same king hath granted, likewise, by his letters patent, to Richard Norkes and others, that they may assign three messuages and four shillings rent to the aforesaid prior and convent, in recompence of the aforesaid place: the said friars now petition that the aforesaid Ralph and others may give them to the bishop, &c.: hereupon, another writ of *ad quod dampnum* was issued pursuant to their petition. Witness the king, at Westminster, the twenty-eighth of June, in the twenty-first year of his reign." Which was followed by this inquisition, namely:—"An inquistion made by Roger de Tudenham, Roger le Mareschall, Thomas de Hingham, Walter le Chaucer, Ranulph de Pesuner, Alexander de la Sarteryn, Laurence de Blakene, Simon le Parchemyner, Robert de St. Edmund Lorimer, John de Bedford, Adam Friend, and Henry de Selurtuner, who say upon their oath, that it is not to the damage of the king, &c., if he should grant to Ralph Norkes, that he may give and assign a messuage with its appurtenances in Norwich to the venerable Father Roger, Bishop of Norwich, that the same bishop, having peaceable posses-

sion thereof, may give the same to the prior and convent of the church of the Holy Trinity in Norwich, to have and to hold to them and their successors for ever, in perpetual alms: and it is held of the king *in capite*, paying yearly to the bailiffs of Norwich to their farm, one half-penny. And they say the like for one messuage of Thomas de Stanfeld, paying one half-penny. And also of Robert de Sprouston, chaplain, for one messuage, paying also one half-penny; and the like for four shillings of yearly rent, in Norwich, which Adam de Saham should give. Also, they say that the lands and tenements of the aforesaid Ralph, Thomas, Robert, and Adam, which remain to them, besides the aforesaid donations, are sufficient to perform and answer the customs and services, due as well for the said gifts as for what they retain. Moreover, that one Richard de Fornsete, a burgess of Norwich, hath obliged his messuage, in Norwich, before the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer, for payment of the said three half-pence for ever."

And concerning the said rent of three half-pence, the following certificate was made by the city:—"To the most excellent Prince and their Lord, the Lord Edward, by the Grace of God, the most illustrious King of England, Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Aquitaine, his bailiffs and men of his city of Norwich, send their duty (*obsequiun*) or obedience of heart and hands due to so great a king. Whereas, licence hath been lately granted of your grace to the prior and his convent of the Holy Trinity of Norwich, to purchase of Ralph Norkes one messuage; of Thomas de Stanfeld one messuage; of Robert de Sprouston, chaplain, one messuage; and of Adam de Saham four shillings of yearly rent, with their appurtenances, in the city aforesaid; your statute upon such-like purchases set

forth, notwithstanding, reserving to yourself and your heirs, one penny and one half-penny of yearly rent. We signify to your dignity, by the tenor of these presents, that Richard de Fornsete, our fellow-burgess, at the instance and request of the friars minors dwelling in the aforesaid city, hath granted that the aforesaid one penny half-penny shall be yearly received out of his messuage, situate in the said city, from him and his heirs for ever; so that your especial grace may hereupon be obtained. In testimony of which thing, the seal of our commonalty is affixed. (*Sig. Civitatis nostræ.*) Written at Norwich, in the Feast of the Holy Trinity, in the twenty-first year of your reign."

So that, at length, the king granted his charter of licence to the said Ralph and others, before mentioned, to assign the premises unto the said bishop for the purposes aforesaid. Witness the king, the twenty-fifth of November, in the twenty-second year of his reign.*

And after the friars had obtained all the ground necessary for their monastery, gardens, &c., they wanted a communication with the river, which was near them, passing by not far from them eastward. And this they also obtained, and afterwards had confirmed, as from the following instrument will appear:—"To all and singular the faithful people of Christ, to whom the present indented writing shall come, I, William Skipwyth, esquire, greeting in the Lord. The writing of Elizabeth Elmham, John Ingaldesthorpe, knight, Roger Drury, knight, Richard Burghe, esq., John Carbonell, esq., William Rys, esq., William Appilzerd, John Hoolboorne, Alexander Broune, and Edmund Perke, chaplain, I have seen in these words. 'To all to whom the present letters shall come, Elizabeth Elmham, John Ingaldesthorpe, knight, &c., greeting.

* *Lib. Placitorum et Chartarum.*

Whereas, Roger Verly, late citizen of Norwich, hath formerly granted to the (guardians) warden and convent of the order of the friars minors in the city of Norwich, a certain easement of carrying and recarrying corn and other victuals, and also other their goods and chattels, by a certain ditch of water of the same Roger, in Norwich, in Nether Conesforde, which said ditch extends itself from the king's river towards the east, unto the king's way towards the west, and lies between the land some time of the said Roger, on the part of the south and of the north, as in a certain charter indented of the same Roger, thereupon made, is more fully contained; of which said ditch and land, on the south and north sides of the said ditch, on the day of the date of the presents, we, the said Elizabeth Elmham, John Ingaldesthorpe, &c., are infeoffed and seized; know ye, that we, the aforesaid Elizabeth, John, &c., have ratified, and by these presents confirmed, the aforesaid easement to the same warden and convent and their successors for ever; and that it may be very lawful for the same warden, &c., to dig in the said ditch, and to clean the said ditch of water; and at the free will of the same warden, &c., to do such things as are necessary for the amending of the water of the said ditch, whereby the said warden, &c., may the better and more commodiously use the easement aforesaid for the future, without the impediment of us, or our heirs or assigns. We have also granted, and by the present writing confirmed to the aforesaid warden, &c., that it may be very lawful for the same warden, &c., to fish freely in the aforesaid ditch, from the Feast of St. Gregory the Pope, before the date of the presents, for two hundred years next following, and fully to be completed; provided always, that we, the before-mentioned Elizabeth, John, &c., our

heirs or assigns, may not be hindered by the said warden, &c., but that we may freely in our same ditch fish, carry, and recarry all our victuals, goods, and chattels, whensoever and so often as it shall please us and our heirs or assigns. In testimony of which thing, to the present writing we have set to our seals. Dated at Norwich, on the Tuesday next after the Feast of St. Gregory the Pope, in the sixth year of king Henry the fourth, after the conquest.' Know ye that I, the before-mentioned William Skipwyth, being in my full, peaceable, and sole possession of and in that messuage with its appurtenances, which some time, namely, at the time of the making of that writing, belonged to the aforesaid Elizabeth, John, &c., in Norwich, in the parish of St. Vedast, (whereof the aforesaid ditch is a parcel) for me and my heirs and assigns have accepted that writing, and approved it; and have ratified, &c. for me and my heirs, to Richard Colby, now warden of the convent of the order of friars aforesaid, in the said city, and to their successors, all and singular the things contained in the same writing. I have moreover granted, by this present writing, to the aforesaid warden, &c., that it may be very lawful for them to fish in the said ditch for their own proper uses, unto the term of two hundred years aforesaid; and, immediately from the end of that term, unto the end of the term of other two hundred years, from thence next following, and fully to be completed, as often as and whensoever it shall please the said warden, &c.; provided that I, the said William Skipwyth, my heirs and assigns, may freely fish in the ditch aforesaid. I have also granted for me and my heirs, to the aforesaid warden, &c., that they, without the brink of the said ditch, in and by my land, namely, by the space of eight feet of immediate breadth on each side of the same ditch,

and in length of the same whole ditch, by either side thereof, may walk on foot, and may walk when and so often as they shall please to fish in the same ditch, during the term of the aforesaid four hundred years. In testimony of which thing, to the one part of this indented writing, remaining with the aforesaid warden and convent, I, the aforesaid William Skipwyth, have set to my seal; and to the other part of the same indented writing, remaining with me, the aforesaid William Skipwyth, the now warden and convent aforesaid have set to their common seal. Dated the fifteenth day of March, in the fifth year of the reign of king Edward, the fourth after the conquest."*

NOTE.—This was the creek over which the stone bridge lies in St. Vedast's Lane, near to the place where the horse-fair is kept.

THE FOLLOWING PERSONS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN BURIED IN THE CHURCH OF THE SAID GREY FRIARS, AS WE FIND IN THEIR LAST WILLS AND TESTAMENTS OF THE FOLLOWING DATES:—

A. D.

1330, Robertus Bainard, died and lyeth buryed among the friars minors of Norwich. (Manuscript Collection of Robert Glover.)†

1370, Sir John de Haddon.

1371, Walter Baker, parson of Shropham.

1372, William de Pulham, mercer, citizen of Norwich, and bequeathed to them and to the friars preachers, twenty shillings each order, to pray for his soul.‡

1373, Sir John de Reppes, knight; near the grave of Sir John Banent.

1374, Henry Wynke, chaplain.

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* *Autograph, in Guildhall.* † *Coll. D. Tanner, Canc.* ‡ *Reg. Heydon.*

A. D.

1375, The Lady Petronilla de Hardeshille.

1397, Henry Oldebek, of Wichingham Magna, rector of the church of Wramplingham.

1423, Thomas Ocle, citizen of Norwich, late one of the sheriffs of the same city.

1429, Sir Richard Carbonell, knight; bequeathed to these friars twenty shillings, and two cloths of gold with frontalls for the altar and one Bible.*

1431, The Lady Margaret, who was wife of Sir Richard Carbonell, knight, in the chapel of St. Anne.

1433, Thomas Boyes, esquire.

1437, Henry Walsingham, of Trous.

1439, Thomas Attezatys, son of Richard Attzatis, lyster, late citizen of Norwich: he bequeathed five pounds to be prayed for.

1441, William Ledman, citizen, and some time mayor of this city: he bequeathed ten marks; also, five marks to the making or amending of a certain chapel of St. Mary, in their church.†

1442, John Braklee, citizen of Norwich, lyster: he bequeathed his messuage to be sold after the death of his wife, and half the money thence arising unto the friars.

1445, Roger Totenay.

1453, Robert Ryngman (*Graden. Episcopus*) Bishop of * * *, within the choir of their church.‡

1459, Alice Preston, of Norwich, widow.§

1461, Thomas Shurlok, chaplain: he bequeathed twenty shillings.

1474, Alice Brocker, of Norwich, widow; and bequeathed twenty shillings to the repair of their dormitory.

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* *Reg. Surfleet*, f. 67. † *Reg. Doke*, f. 154.

‡ *Reg. Aleyn*, f. 172. § *Reg. Brosyard*, f. 176.

A. D.

1474, William Herbert, of Swardestone.

1481, Thomas Sparke, citizen of Norwich, coverlyght-wever: he bequeathed twenty shillings.

1483, John Dyghton, citizen of Norwich, vintner, "willed to be buried in the north syde of the churche of the Fryeris Mynours, in Norwich, before Saint Thomas; to which church he bequeathed for brekyng of the ground, twenty shillings; to iche frier, being a preste, four-pence; to iche other frier, two-pence. Also, he bequeathed to the same place, to the said fryers prestyd, one pype of rede wyne, to syng their masses with. Also, to Fryer Thornham, wardeyn of the same place, twenty-pence; and to iche fryer, maister of the same place, twelve-pence. Also, to the same place, a steyned cloth with the nine worthyes."*

1484, Cecily Skelton, of Norwich, widow, late wife of Thomas Skelton, gentylman, near the grave of her said husband.†

1485, William Phelippes, citizen and alderman of Norwich, "by the grave of Kateryn his wiff, late there beryed; and bequeathed to the repair of the house, twenty shillings; to every fryer preste, four-pence; and to every fryer, not a preste, two-pence."‡

1486, Margaret Skipwith, widow of William Skipwith, late of Norwich, esquire, in the chapel of Blessed Mary the Virgin, contiguous to the choir of their church, and bequeathed ten marks to their convent; so that the warden and convent, on the day of the burial of her body, and one day in every week for a year following, next after her death,

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* *Reg. Caston*, f. 237. † *Reg. Caston*, f. 208. ‡ *Reg. Caston*, f. 35.

A. D.

should keep in their choir aforesaid, her exequies with *placebo*, &c. Also, four pounds per annum to a friar of the same convent, for five years, to celebrate in the said chapel of St. Ann.*

1486, Margaret Fisher, of Norwich, widow, and gave ten shillings.

1490, Isabel Lyston, widow of Robert Lyston, squier; by her said husband, if she dyed in Norwich.†

1492, Roger Aylemer, squyer, seventh of October, at Norwich. "I will that my body be beried in the Fryers Mynours, in Norwich. I bequeath to the high aultar of St. Stephen's chirche, six shillings and eight-pence. Item.—To the Warden and Convent of the Fryers Mynours, to the emending of their bokys and vestiments, forty-six shillings and eight-pence; and I will that iche of the four fryers, that shall bere my body to the church of the said Fryers Minors, have for his labor twenty-pence; also, to the repair of the said church, to pray for my sowle, and say a solempn mass yearly, for four yeres, eight pounds; and that Fryer John Fyssher, of the said convent, be my prest, and go to the court of Rome on pilgrimage, and say mass for my sowle at *Scala Celi*, &c., and to have ten marks when he goeth forth, and when he cometh home, forty shillings."‡

1494, Thomas Brygg, esquire, on the south side of the church, before the altar, within the *parclos* there. "Item.—I will that my executors pay to the house of the same friars, one hundred marks, to be paid according to the effect of a certain indenture thereupon made between me and Thomas

* *Reg. Wolman*, f. 18. † *Reg. Wolman*, f. 17. ‡ *Reg. Multone*, f. 49.

A. D.

Glaumvyle, warden of the same house, with intention and condition that the friars there shall pray for my soul, and for the souls of my friends, according to the effect of the same indenture. Item.—I will that my executors pay for a marble stone, to be laid on my grave, an hundred shillings." *

1496, John Spryngwelle:† he willed to be buried in the chirche of St. Frawncesse, at the Fryers Mynours, in Norwich, and bequeathed to the said fryers, forty shillings.‡

1499, Richard Glawnvile, citizen of Norwich, bruer, and gave ten shillings.

1501, Geffrey Freman, of Norwich, and gave ten shillings for a trental.

1502, Anastas Elys, of Norwich, single woman, and gave twelve shillings.§

1504, Isabelle Hoode, of Norwich, widowe. "Item.—I bequeth to the said freres a maser, (*ita*) halff a doseyn silver spones, my best brasse pott, and my best panne; and three shillings and four-pence for a petaunce.‖

1514, Edward Walshe, of Wightlingham: he gave them five marks.

1515, Margery Havyr, of Norwich, widow, near the grave of John Havyr, late her husband: he bequeathed twenty-six shillings and eight-pence; and also to each friar priest, four-pence, and others, two-pence.

1516, Olive Dade; and gave four marks.

As for the meaner sort, whose purses could not reach the purchase of a burial-place in the friars' church, they

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* *Reg. Wolman*, f. 202. † 12 Henry VII. ‡ *Reg. Multone*, f. 55.
§ *Reg. Popye*, f. 239. ‖ *Reg. Rix*, f. 174.

were made to believe it would be of some service to their souls to have their corpses carried by friars, to be interred at the parish churches. For instance, A. D. 1505, William Southwode, of Norwich, cook, willed to be buried in the churchyard of St. Margaret, in Westwik. "Item.—I will have four grey friars to bere me to churche, and give to eche for their labour, four-pence.*

Another small benefactor, A. D. 1531, bequeathed to the box of St. Francis Freres, in Norwich, twelve-pence; and to the place there, five shillings.†

The monks of the cathedral church were used generally, at Christmas, to entertain these grey friars, or send them victuals; as appears in the rolls of accompts of the prior's chamber, namely,—

Anno, 12th of Henry de Lakenham, prior. Expended in feeding (alias *refectione, cibatione*) the Friars Minors, at the Nativity, three shillings and four-pence.

Anno, 20th ditto, sixteen shillings.

Anno, 5th R. de Langele, six shillings and nine-pence, besides store.

And so yearly, thereabouts, in the time of William de Claxton, prior. Also, sometimes they employed them to serve cures: as in the accompt of the sacrist of the said cathedral, "A. D. 1505, paid to a friar minor, who served the church and parishioners of Etone, this year, fifty-three shillings and four-pence."

These friars also, according to the manner of others, had the knack of raising money to themselves by letters of confraternity. Hence, we find mention in old wills of the sisters of this order:—

1476, Katerine, a sister of the order of the friars minors.‡

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* *Reg. Rix*, f. 230. † *Reg. Alpe*, f. 157. ‡ *Reg. Gelour*, f. 183.

A. D.

1478, Jone Cook, of Northwalsham, (*Consoror*) or sister of the house of the friars minors, in Norwich.*

1484, Margaret Est, of Norwich, widow. "I wull that my body be beried in the churchyard of St. Martyn in the Baly. Item.—I wull that my letter of pardon from the Grey Friers, after my berying, be had home unto the same place unto the which I am suster, and six-pence with the same letter; and a masse there to be done for me, if it may be borne." †

1492, William Cusshyn, of Hengham, bequeathed to the house of the Grey Friers, in Norwich, in which he was a brother, ten shillings.

The following is a translation of one of their said letters:—"To his most dear in Christ, Thomas Bate and his children, Friar Richard, minister and servant of the Friars Minors in England, wisheth health, and by the merits of this life to receive eternal joys. I, considering and accepting the devotion, which, for the reverence of God, you have to our order, with an affection of sincere charity, and desiring to render to you a salutary recompence, I receive you to all and singular the suffrages of the friars of the English administration, as well in life as in death, by the tenor of these presents; granting to you a full participation of all the spiritual good things, as far as it shall please God, which, by the same friars committed to my care, the clemency of our Saviour shall vouchsafe to be wrought. Adding, moreover, of our special grace, that when your deaths, together with an exhibition of these presents, shall be shewed in our provincial chapter, there shall be done for you by the whole administration of

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* *Reg. Gelour*, f. 216. † *Reg. Caston*, f. 203.

England, that which hath been used to be performed for our friars, and the friends and benefactors of our order deceased, there recommended. Farewell, happily! in the Lord Jesus Christ, and in His Mother, the glorious Virgin. Dated at Norwich, the fourth day of February, A. D. 1432.

BY FRIAR ROBERT CARLT**."†

NOTE.—Richard was brother Richard Leak, D.D., the forty-sixth provincial of this order in England, as appears by *Antiquities of English Franciscans*, p. XII. and 198; and Robert Carlton was, probably, warden of the convent of Norwich.

The church of the said friars was dedicated to St. Francis, the founder of their order, as appears before.

The length of the choir of their church was sixty (*gressus*) common paces; the length of the inter-space of the steeple (belfry) between the doors of the choir and the doors of the nave of the church, twenty-four paces; the length of the nave of the church, from the west to the first doors towards the east, was * * * * paces, which contains thirty-five yards or one hundred and five feet; the breadth of the said church, thirty-two paces; the length of the cloister, on the chapter-house side, contains sixty-one paces. But the aforesaid length of the church, from west to the first doors of the church, contains thirty-five yards, that is, one hundred and five feet, by my measure with a yard of three feet long.

The length of the nave of the church of St. Francis of Norwich, from the west end of the choir to the west window, contains eighty-two paces; the breadth thereof, thirty-two paces.‡

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† I suppose CARLTON.

‡ *Willis' Account of Priors, &c.*, Addend., p. 329: ex Collect. *Willmi Worcester*, p. 149.

CHAPELS IN THE SAID CHURCH MENTIONED.

The chapel of Blessed Virgin Mary, contiguous to the choir, 1441 and 1486; the chapel of St. Saviour, on the south side of the church, 1518; the chapel of St. Anne, 1431.*

IMAGES.

The image of St. Thomas, in the north side of the church, and the image of Our Lady of Pitee, 1505.

GUILDS KEPT HERE.

The guild of Our Lady, at the Friars Minors, 1497.†

The guild of St. John the Evangelist, 1503, 1518, 1524.

A. D. 1503.—Geffrey Stywarde, alderman, bequeathed to the guild of St. John the Evangelist, holden in the Grey Friars, in Norwich, twenty shillings.‡

The guild of St. Barbara, 1497, 1505, 1514, 1524.

A. D. 1497.—Peter Peterson bequeathed to the sustaining of St. Barbara's guild, holden in the Grey Friars, in Norwich, forty-pence.§

Also, they usually had an anchorite residing here, whose cell was next Conesford-Street. opposite to the lane which leads from this street to the red well: the place is still called, in writings, the Anchorite's Garden. In A. D. 1628, it was in farm to John Jermy, esq., for ten shillings per annum; lately sold for fifty guineas: and a new house is now built there. Mention of the anchorite here, is found in the last will of William Beisby of Norwich, draper, A. D. 1518, who willed to be buried in the churchyard of St. George Tombland. "Item.—I wyll that the ancre of

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* *Reg. Surflet.*, f. 82. (*Coll. D. Tann.*)

† *Reg. Multone*, f. 91.

‡ *Reg. Popye*, f. 507.

§ *Reg. Multone*, f. 55.

the Grey Fryers, in Norwich, syng for me five masses of the five Wondes, by the privilege of *Scala Celi*, graunted to Boston Pardon. He to have for his labour twenty-pence; which I will be done the same day that I die, or the next following."* So that, it seems this Beisby was a brother of Boston Guild.

During the times of controversy between the city and monks of the cathedral church, in A. D. 1493, conferences were held here between the council and deputies of both parties, concerning the matters controversed.† And the mayor and aldermen resorted hither to church, instead of going to the cathedral, whereof, A. D. 1496,— "Memorandum. That, upon Tuesday in Esterne weke, (the sixth of April) after the sermone in the Grey Friars, Doctour Shenkweyn compleyned to the maior for sellyng of wyne after ten-pence the galone by Mr. Gogeone.‡

WARDENS OF THE GREY FRIARS.

The heads of the respective monasteries of Grey Friars were called not priors, but *guardiani*, or wardens; and these were some of the wardens of the Grey Friars, in Norwich: namely,—

Richard Colby—5 Edward IV.
William Rokewode—8 Edward IV.
John Mowte—1469.
Thomas .....—(*intr.* 1471 and 1483.)
..... Thornham.—1483.
Thomas Glaumvyle.—1494.

OF THE LIBRARY.

Leland, in his *Collectanea*, has only the name of one book in the library of these friars, namely, *Bacon de Locis;* a book of geography, beginning "*Quoniam infinitum est,*"§ &c.

* *Reg. Gylys*, f. 76. † *Comp. Camer.*—8 Henry VII.
‡ *Lib. Cur.*—11 Henry VII. § *Lel. Coll.*, vol. III., p. 26.

Upon the suppression of monasteries, king Henry the eighth granted the site of the Friars Minors to Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, by his letters patent of the twelfth of March, in the thirtieth year of his reign, A. D. 1539, to hold to him and his heirs for ever, in free burgage and by fealty for all services.*

The Earl of Surrey, the son of the said duke, came thither the same year. Whence, in the chamberlain's account, we find mention of ypocras and other things, sent by the city as a present to the Lord Surrey to the Grey Friars.†

But I have a note, that, on the sixth of November, in the thirty-sixth year of Henry the eighth, the said king granted to Paul Gresham and Francis Baldero, gentlemen, several messuages in the Grey Friars, in Norwich, for one hundred and seventy-four pounds two shillings and eight-pence.‡

In the first year of Elizabeth, the city purchased the house of the Grey Friars of the Duke of Norfolk;§ but the duke had leased it‖ to John Bronde for forty years, at eight pounds ten shillings per annum clear; and when the city purchased the premises, Richard Sotherton had the lease, who, in the sixth year of the said queen's reign, sold the same lease to the city upon reasonable terms, so that the city had a good bargain of it.¶

And the next year, the great house at the Grey Friars, with its gables, buttresses, &c., was taken down by the city; and they received twenty-six pounds five shillings and eight-pence for a year's rental of the several parcels,** which, in A. D. 1625, amounted to forty-four pounds seventeen shillings and four-pence for a year's rent.††

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* *Pat.*—30 Henry VIII. *Autograph, in Guildhall Civitatis.*
† *Comp. Camer. Civ.*—29 Henry VIII. ‡ P. L. N. N.
§ *Lib. Cong.*, &c. ‖ *Lib. Rub. Mingay.*—33 Henry.
¶ *Lib. Cong. et Comp. Cam.* ** *Comp. Camer.*—7 Elizabeth.
†† *Comp. Camer.*—1625.

A great part of the grounds belonging to the said site of the grey friars have, at several times since, been sold or leased out in long unexpirable, or at least irrevertible, leases by the city.

OF THE AUSTIN FRIARS.

Concerning the rise of the Augustine (or Austin) Friars, we are told the following stories by them:—"The Order of the Hermits of the Father Aurelius Augustine began A. D. 398," says our author, "at Tegast and Hippo, cities of Africa; the same Augustine (or Austin) being the founder and master. For when Austin had buried his mother at Ostia, by the mouth of the Tiber, he sailed to Africa; and having given his patrimony to the poor, he built the first monastery in a wood, not far from the city of Hippo, and there, with the servants of God, began to live after the manner of Hermits, according to the rule constituted by the Holy Apostles. And when he had been there three years, he first published a rule according to the apostolical form, and delivered it to them, for them and their successors to observe. Hermits, and other men without number, offered themselves to the profession of the father, and many monasteries were built in Africa, which, in many places when the Vandal persecution raged, were demolished. Whereupon some of the friars went to Italy; and in Tuscany especially, and other places, they laboured to restore and preserve the heremitical order; but under the Goths, Longobards, &c., they were almost extinguished. When therefore, in many places, this Order of the Hermits of St. Austin seemed to be decayed, St. William, who was Duke of Aquitaine, arose in France, and greatly advanced his Order. He bent his mind to regulate the manners of his religious, and to repair and

build new monasteries: for he first, leaving the wilderness, built a monastery of the Order at Paris, and begun to exercise begging; Pope Anastasius the fourth, and Hadrian, his successor, approving it. And he caused the same to be done in many cities, being more commodious places to exercise their begging-trade in than the wilderness; and that being an easier employment than work, by which the ancient and better sort of monks subsisted themselves. This was about A. D. 1157; and after that, they were commonly called in France, not Hermits of St. Austin, but *Williamites*. And after that, by his example, John the Good, of Mantua, restored in like manner the decayed order in Umbria and Flaminia, provinces of Italy; and many monasteries were built about A. D. 1200: whereupon, in those provinces, the religious of this order were called, not Hermits of St. Austin, but *Zamboniti*. This John had for many years adhered to young men and players: afterwards, being smitten with a grievous sickness, he vowed to God to take on him the habit of religion, if he recovered; and being restored to health, he sold all his goods, and bestowed the money on the poor, and departed to a certain cave in Flaminia, near the city Cæsena, and took the habit of the religion of the Hermits of St. Austin. In the beginning of his entrance into this religion, he was greatly assaulted with carnal lusts; but taking a reed, he broke it into small pieces, and fixed the sharp ends under the nails of his fingers, and beating his hand on a stone, smote them up to the upper part of his fingers; whereupon, by most vehement suffering, being almost dead, he fell down on the ground, and there remained as dead for three days and nights: but the Lord appeared to him, and said—"Son, because you have acted courageously, you shall pass your life in the best manner: you shall

no more be assaulted with any temptation." The pain vanished; and afterwards he afflicted his body with incredible abstinence to his death, which happened A. D. 1222.

At length, Pope Alexander the fourth, who succeeded Innocent, perfected the union of the friars, Hermits of St. Austin, which had been begun by his predecessor. Being warned by a certain vision,—(dreams, visions, and imaginations are the foundations of most of the popish superstitions)—wherein he saw the most blessed Father Austin, with a great head and small limbs, who admonished him, that whereas his order was spread through the cities of France, it might be reduced into cities, that it might have an increase after the manner of the preachers and minors, who, presently awaking, ordained that the aforesaid friars should be governed under one head, and called by one name, namely, Hermits of St. Austin. And he obliged them, leaving the woods, to inhabit cities; and granted them privileges of hearing confessions, &c., as to the other orders: this was about A. D. 1256.*

But, notwithstanding all this, the most part of their own learned men do suspect that neither these friars nor the canons regular were ever instituted by the learned St. Austin. The said order of Austin friars was impugned by many persons, and at Paris was rejected; but Pope Honorius the fourth confirmed it, A. D. 1287.† These friars came into England from Italy about the year 1252.‡

A. D. 1377.—The Austin friars obtained a dispensation for the eating of flesh, under condition that they should observe the fast of the friars minors before Christmas.§

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* *Supplm. Suppli. Cronicar.* † Bale, *Cent. Scriptor.* 4, 49, p. 338.

‡ Bale, *Cent.* 7, cap. 89, *in Appendice, &c. Lewis Owen's Genealogy of Monks, &c.*

§ *Lel. Coll.*, vol. I., p. 382.

"The order of Austin friars," saith Mr. Weever, "was founded by one Remigius, or by the king; but by what king, or to what saint dedicated, or to what value it amounted, (this last was in vain to inquire after) I do not know. Others say it was founded by one Roger Mynyoth."*

Indeed, the time when these Austin friars came first to Norwich, does not appear. But the capital pledges of the Conesford leet, A. D. 1290, presented that the Austin friars had appropriated to themselves many tenements which used to pay langable to the king.† Also, at another leet, three years after, the said friars were amerced for having made a purpresture in the street of Nether Conesford, by a certain wall, built on the Cokeye well, twenty feet long, and in breadth three feet.‡

In the said year, 1290, on the Friday after the Feast of St. Mark, Bartholomew de Acre, merchant, citizen of Norwich, granted to God and to Blessed Mary, and to St. Austin, and to the Friars of the Order of St. Austin, for the health of his soul, and of the souls of his ancestors, in pure and perpetual alms, his messuage in Norwich, in the parish of St. Michael of Conesford, between the (*domicilium*) mansion of the aforesaid friars towards the south, and a certain messuage of Roger de Morle towards the north, whereof the east head abutted on the land of Gregory Croyde, and the west head upon the king's way of Upper Conesford.§

The friars also obtained about the same time, by gift or purchase, several other messuages adjoining, in the said parish of St. Michael, and in the parish of St. Peter per Mountergate, as of Adam de Toftes, Hugh

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* *Weever's Fun. Mon.*

† *Rot. Lete Conesf.*—18 Edward I.

‡ *Rot. Lete Conesf.*—21 Edward I.

§ *Rot. Cart.*—18 Edward I.

de Fornesete, and others, concerning which take the following instrument:—

"To all the faithful of Christ, to whom the present letters shall come; John, the son of Simon le Mercer of Norwich, greeting, in the Lord. Whereas (our) lord the king, by his writ, hath commanded the sheriff of Norfolk, that, by a good and lawful inquisition, he should diligently inquire whether it would be to the damage or prejudice of (our) lord the king, or (*quid decideret*) what loss would fall to the same lord the king, if (our) lord the king should grant to Bartholomew de Acre, Emme David, Hugh de Fornesete and Julian his wife, Reginald de Antingham, and Roger de Morley, that they might give and grant certain places of land in Norwich, with their appurtenances, contiguous to the house of the friars of the order of St. Austin, there to be held to them and their successors for ever. And by the same inquisition, it hath been found the aforesaid places of land should pay to (our) lord the king three half-pence only, to be yearly paid to the landgable of (our) lord the king, according to the custom of the aforesaid city. That the aforesaid yearly rent may not be lost to the king, I signify to you, by the tenor of these presents, that I, the aforesaid John the son of Simon, will (if so be it shall please the lord king) that a certain messuage of mine, with its appurtenances in the aforesaid city, (*caritatis intuitu*) in way of charity, be bound and subjected for ever to be distrained by (our) lord the king and his bailiffs, for the payment of the aforesaid three half-pence to the before-mentioned lord the king, according to the custom aforesaid, for the aforesaid friars and their successors, to be yearly performed, &c. Dated at Norwich, in the Feast of St. Andrew the apostle, in the twenty-second year of the reign of the lord king Edward." And it is

to be noted, that the said messuage, before the obligation made, paid to the said landgable of the lord king, one penny per annum.*

Afterwards, namely, in the thirteenth year of Edward the second, Peter de Basingham, citizen of Norwich, and Katherine his wife, for nine marks sterling, sold and quit-claimed to the prior and convent of the order of St. Austin for ever, eleven shillings of yearly rent which they used to receive yearly out of three messuages in Conesford Street, in the parish of St. Peter per Mountergate, which the aforesaid prior and convent now held, namely, of the messuage late of Gregory Croyde, four shillings; of the messuage late of Reginald de Antingham, four shillings; and of the messuage late of Hugh de Fornesete, three shillings.†

And in the nineteenth year of the said king, the friars had the king's licence for taking another messuage, which was granted them by the abbot and convent of Langley, for enlarging their mansion.‡

Part of the tenements thus taken in by the friars (especially the last, as I think) paid a yearly rent to the prior and monks of the cathedral church of Norwich.

"Know all men, that, whereas we, the prior and convent of the house or habitation of the order of the Friars Hermits of St. Austin, in Norwich, are bound to the prior and convent, or chapter of the cathedral church of Norwich, in three shillings and eight-pence sterling, in the name of a yearly rent, for certain places included within the (*clausuram*) wall of our said habitation, in Norwich, to be paid to the said prior and convent of the said cathedral church, at the Feasts of Easter and St. Michael,

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* *Liber Consuetud.*, f. 60. † *Rot. Cart.*—13 Edward. II.

‡ *Pat.*—19 Edward II.; part I., m. 32. P. L. N. N.

by equal portions. We will and grant, for us and our successors, that so often as the said yearly rent shall be in arrear, in whole or in part, at the said terms, it may be lawful for the said prior and chapter and their successors, by any person whom they shall depute, to distrain the moveable goods in the aforesaid house, in any manner belonging to the aforesaid prior and convent of the friars of the order aforesaid. And also, we bind ourselves to pay one mark (*nomine pœnæ*) as a penalty to the chamber of the lord Pope. Dated the fifth kalend of January, 1347."

Upon the back of the instrument: "MEMORANDUM.—Of this rent, the cellarer receives forty-pence, and almoner four-pence." *

The original is also indorsed thus, namely,—

"An obligation of the Friars Hermites for a pension due for the appropriation of the church of St. Michael: pension three shillings and eight-pence."—But this I take to be a mistake; as well from the tenor of the instrument, as also because, in a rental of the cellarer's rents, made A. D. 1337, it is thus entered, namely,—

"St. Michael de Conesford. De Fratribus August. pro ten. quond. de Langele, forty-pence;" that is, of the Austin Friars, for the tenement some time of St. John de (or of the abbot of) Langley, forty-pence.

It is true, these friars had also the said church of St. Michael, concerning which, it is noted in the old register of the archdeaconry of Norwich, that the Austin Friars have within their (*clausuram*) inclosure, or wall, the church of St. Michael of Conesford, which they acquired A. D. 1368. At length, they had all the messuages and grounds adjoining, between the street west and river east, and St. Vedast's lane north and St. Ann's lane south,

* *Reg. 2 E. Cath.*, f. 89. *Reg. 5 E. Cath.*, f. 111. *Autogr.*, *A. E. N.*

namely, all that ground now inclosed with stone walls, in Conesford street, called the Lord's Garden. Their last purchase was of a lane from the city for twenty pounds, which in old time lay through some part of the said ground. For, in the book of treasurer's accompts, we find, "Received of the Prior and Convent of the Order of the Austin Friars, for a common lane, lying near the mansion of the said Friars, for enlargement of their aforesaid mansion, twenty pounds."*

Many of the gentry, and other persons of note, were buried in the church of these Austin Friars, whereof I shall give an account from their wills of the following dates; but first of all, please to take the agreement which was made between Sir Edmund de Thorp, knight, and the Prior of these Friars, about finding a priest to celebrate mass for ever, made A. D. 1348,† as under, namely, upon the grant of St. Michael's church to them, as it seems to me, whereof the Thorps were patrons. "This is the convention made between the (Reverendum) Worshipful Edmund Thorp, knight, son of Sir Robert Thorp, knight, of the one part, and the prior and convent of the friars of the order of St. Austin of Norwich of the other part, namely: That the aforesaid prior and convent grant and promise that they shall have one chapel in the honor of St. Michael the Archangel, to the reverence of the saint and for the devotion of the faithful people, who may the more frequently have special mention in their prayers for the deceased, whose bodies rest in the churchyard. Item.—That the aforesaid churchyard shall never be applied to another use

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* *Lib.* II., *Comp. Thes. Civit.*—8 Henry VI.

† St. Michael's church was not granted (or perhaps, appropriated) to them till A. D. 1368.—*Reg. Archid. N.*

than for preaching in, for sepulture, or the building of a church. Item.—The aforesaid prior and convent promise and oblige themselves faithfully, that they shall have one friar, a priest, assigned by the prior of the place, or his vicegerent, to celebrate three masses in every week for ever in the (above) mentioned chapel: namely, one mass on Monday for the deceased, particularly for the souls of Sir Robert Thorp, knight, John and John, and of all faithful people deceased; and on Wednesday, (*feria quarta*) another mass of St. Michael for the living, particularly for the life of Sir Edmund Thorp, and of Beatrice (his) mother, (and of) * * * * * *, the wife of John Thorp, and of all those for whom they are bound. Also the same mass on the day aforesaid, particularly for the souls of Edmund and Beatrice, when they shall have gone the way of all flesh, they shall (always or thenceforth) apply. But the third mass of the Blessed Virgin they shall continue in like manner. Moreover, the aforesaid prior and convent do grant that the said Sir Edmund (shall have) free (ingress) and egress, separate from others, in the time when the solemnities of the masses are celebrated. Item.—That the said friar deputed to celebrate the said masses (*per dominum .....itus*) shall wait for him to mass unto a convenient time. So that every day the said chapel be occupied by one friar, a priest, (*si convenienter fieri poterit*) a lawful cause not hindring. Item.—That the obiit of Sir Robert, John and John, and of Sir Edmund, and Beatrice his mother, shall be every year solemnly kept (by the aforesaid convent.) And moreover, devoutly and in a pure conscience, for the benefits manifoldly exhibited to us and (which) for future we hope for, (we promise) that every day for ever, whereon the chapter has been used to recite particularly the names of the founders and benefactors, they shall de-

voutly nominate the aforesaid Sir Edmund and Beatrice (his mother) as well in life as in death, together with the souls of Sir Robert, John, and John, as founders. And that this writing, grant, and obligation, (for) perpetual memory of the thing may be reduced into publick form, they grant that it shall be sealed, as well with the seal of the prior provincial in England, as also with the seal of the community of the friars of the said convent, together with the seal of the prior of the aforesaid place. Dated in our provincial chapter, celebrated at Huntyngdon, in the feast of St. Austin ..... the doctor, *Anno Domini*, one thousand three hundred and forty eight."*

From the aforesaid instrument, it is probable that the said Sir Robert de Thorp, knight, was buried here, and others also of that family. But the following persons were, as appears from their last wills and testaments of the several dates prefixed, namely :—

A. D.

1375, Thomas de Hemenhale, son of Sir Thomas de Hemenhale, knight.

1379, Sir Robert Brokedyss, rector of the church of Marlyngforth.

1379, Sir Edmund Hemgrave, knight.

1379, " I, Sir William de Morle, knight, (Lord Morley,) bequeath to the said friars, for my mortuary, my best black horse on the day of my interment. Also, I bequeath and order twenty-five pounds of wax, whereof shall be made five tapers to burn about my body at the time of my funeral. Item.—I bequeath to the aforesaid friars my principal compleat vestment, with one cloth of gold (*intexto*) embroidered with the heads of ladies. Item.—I

* *Transcript. antiq. in pergameno, penes* P. L. N. N.

A. D.

bequeath to the said friars twenty marks of lawful money of England, to celebrate for my soul; so that every one of their convent shall (*oneretur*) be charged in their chapter, on their profession and conscience, to celebrate for my soul according to the proportion which he shall receive. And that my obiit may be had in perpetual memory amongst them."*

1381, Stephen Horn, rector of the church of St. Peter of Southgate.

1383, Amabilla Maloysel, sometime the wife of John de Holvestone, near the said John.

1386, Cecilie (daughter of Thomas Lord Bardolf) bequeathed her body to be buried in this church, where the before-mentioned William Lord Morley, her late husband, lay interred. And died the same year.†

1386, Henry Martyn of East Carleton, chaplain.

1401, Alice Hemgrave, Lady (Dame) of Mutford, by her husband; (she was daughter of John Lile.)‡

1417, Sir Thomas Gyney, knight.

1422, Sir John Geney, knight, and dame Alice his wife, obiit 1454,§ near the grave of Roger, his son.

1433, Richard Gybbes of Norwich.

1435, John Peverell of Melton Magna.

1436, Nicholas Botyld, citizen of Norwich.

1439, John Holm of Norwich, near the monument of Margaret, his wife.

1444, Thomas Wetherby, esq. of Carhowe, in the north part of the church of Austin Friars. He bequeathed

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* *Regist. Heydon*, f. 161.

† *Dugd. Baron*, vol. II., p. 27.

‡ Weever.

§ Weever.

A. D. to them twenty shillings, and also five marks.—He was sometime mayor of the city.

1445, Margaret, who was the wife of Thomas Whitefare of Norwich.

1445, Also William Maggessone, citizen of Norwich, reder.

1446, Sir Thomas Kerdestone, knight, by will, dated the first of July, 1446, and proved the fourth of May, 1448, willed to be buried in the church aforesaid. "Item.—I bequeath to the prior and convent of the Austin Friars three hundred marks, under condition that the said prior and convent shall find sufficient security to my executors, that they, the said prior and convent, will find for ever three (*confratres*) friars of the same house, (*non conductitios*) not hired (priests) to celebrate for my soul, and for the souls of Elizabeth and Philippa my wives, and of all my progenitors. Item.—I bequeath to the high altar of the Austin Friars aforesaid, one silver cross for the procession, one pair of silver basons, covered; so that there be written in the circumference, or round about the same basons, 'Orate pro animabus Thome Kerdestone, militis, and Philippe uxoris sue, filie Johannis Trussell, militis.'"*

1457, Margaret Wetherby, late wife of Thomas Wetherby, esq. deceased, willed to be buried in the said church, near the body of the aforesaid Thomas. "Item.—I bequeath one hundred marks for the building of a new library, within the convent of the said Austin Friars, to be there built anew, and erected under this condition, that, in the glass of the windows, (*et in singulis discis librorum*) and

* *Reg. Wylbey*, f. 137.

A. D.

on every one of the desks for the books (*ad memoriam futurorum*) for reminding those who shall come after, our names, (namely, of me, and of Thomas Wetherby my spouse,) may be written and intituled. For which said sum the prior and convent of the said Austin Friars have granted me, by their letters patent, sealed with their common seal, one friar, (*capellanum*) a priest, to celebrate yearly in their said church for ever, for our souls, and for the soul of the Lord John Wakeryng, late bishop of Norwich, of good memory, and for those we are bound to."—(The Lady Alice Pegott, prioress of Carhowe, was one of her executors.*)

1460, John Bacon the elder, esq., willed to be buried in the said church, near the grave of Maude, late his wife. "Item.—I bequeath to the convent aforesaid, twelve marks for repair of necessaries, so that the prior thereof shall provide two friars to celebrate for our souls for one whole year."—(He was son of Sir Roger Bacon, says Weever.) †

1462, John Bakon, late of Baconesthorppe, esq., son and heir of John Bakone, late of the same, esq., now dwelling in the city of Norwich, 1462, willed to be buried in the said church, near the grave of his said father, and of Maude, his mother.—Also, he bequeathed to the same prior and convent towards the repair of their church and for a new vestment, five marks.—Also, Margaret his wife was here buried, saith Mr. Weever. ‡

1462, Also, Elizabeth, late wife of Sir Ralph Bigott, knight, willed to be buried in the said church the year aforesaid. §

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* *Reg. Brosyard*, f. 83. † *Reg. Brosyard*, f. 214.
‡ *Reg. Brosyard*, f. 304. § *Reg. Brosyard*, f. 316.

A. D.

1465, Margery Veer, late wife of Walter Veer, citizen of Norwich, near the grave of John Fowler, her father.

1475, John Wymondham, senior, esq., and bequeathed to the same house, to pray for his soul and the souls of his ancestors, twenty pounds, to be paid by five marks per annum, until all was paid.*

1475, aforesaid. Also, Alice Wychyngham willed to be buried in the said Austin Friars' church, or near the grave of Edmund Wychyngham, esq., late her husband, who died in 1472.†

1477, John Thurtone, citizen of Norwich, rafman, near the grave of Sibilla his wife, and gave twenty shillings towards the repairs of the monastery.

1480, John Bulwarde of Brakendelle, yeoman, "beforne the ymage of our lady le pité, in the north syde of the chyrche."

1485, Robert Skeltone, and gave six shillings and eight-pence and five marks.

1492, Edmund Southwelle of Norwich, chaplain, and gave to the same church twenty shillings. "Item.—I bequeath to the common Gild of St. Augustine, held by the shomakers, in the church of the said friars, three shillings and four-pence. Item.—I bequeath to the Gild of the Holy Cross held there, twelve-pence."‡

1496, John Brygham, and gave forty shillings.

1501, Margaret Holonde.

1502, Thomas Smythe, lime-burner, before the Holy-Rood, in the body of the church, and gave twenty shillings.

1515, Thomas Berney of Norwich, gentleman, willed to be buried in the said church of the Friars Austin;—

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* *Reg. Gelour*, f. 116. † *Weever*. ‡ *Reg. Wolman*, f. 195.

A. D.

He mentions Kateryn his wife, and made his mother, Alys Berney, and his brother, John Berney, executors.*

1535, Richard Chrispyne, gentleman, willed to be buried in the said church, "on the north syde of Maistre Soterley's squier's grave."†

1537, Katherin Heywarde of Norwich, (widow of William Heywarde) willed to be buried "in the Freres Augustene in Norwich. Item.—To the saide howse of freres I bequeth ten pounds sterling, to be paid at thirteen shillings and four-pence per annum; provided the said freres, duryng the time of payment, yerely kepe therefor an obyte, with mass of requiem for my sowle and my late husband's: and also to be prayd for in ther booke of *Quia fidem* for ever."‡

Besides the above-mentioned, Mr. Weever has given us an account of other persons of note here buried, as followeth, namely, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Tyrrun Rosabart; Elizabeth, wife of William Garneys; ....., son of Sir Ralph Pigoot; Margaret Howard, 1416; Sir John Howell, knight; Sir Robert Ufford; Dame Margery, wife of Sir Edward Hastings and of Sir John Wyndham, daughter of Robert Clifton, 1456; Dame Katherine Ferris, wife of Sir John Radcliffe, 1452; Jone, wife of Robert Boys, daughter of ..... Wychingham, 1400; Sir Thomas, Lord Morley, obiit in Calais; Sir Robert Morley and Dame Anne his wife; John Morley, esq.; Thomas Soterly, esq. and Elizabeth his wife, *obierunt* 1477.§

I have also found mention of several other benefactors to these friars: as in the last will of Joan, who was the wife

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* *Reg. Gylys*, 7 Henry VIII., f. 123.
† *Reg. Godsalve*, f. 88.
‡ *Reg. Hill*, f. 36.
§ *Weever's Fun. Monum.*

of Sir Robert de Castone, knight, proved the Tuesday after the feast of St. Katherine, 13 Edward II., A. D. 1319. "Item.—I bequeath my messuage in the parish of St. James to be sold, and of the money thence arising I give to the Austin Friars in Norwich, ten marks, to celebrate two annuals for my soul and for the souls of Ralph and Robert .....*

Joan Fraunsham, sometime dwelling in Norwich, late wife of Geffrey Fraunsham, esq., who, in her will, proved before the mayor and sheriffs of the city, the twenty-seventh of July, 10 Henry v., (*inter alia*), bequeathed as follows: "Moreover, I will that my messuage in Consford, which was sometime Henry Rafman's, with the gardens annexed, &c., be sold by my executors, and the sum of one hundred marks thence arising shall be given to the friars of the order of St. Augustine, to celebrate for my soul, under the form which (patent), by an instrument, I have notified to the prior and others of the same order. The residue of all my goods I give and bequeath into the hands of my executors, whom I ordain and constitute to be Richard Shurlok, esq. and my son, Master Thomas Sharyngton, of the order of St. Augustine, and Sir Thomas Sharyngton, priest; that they may perform my last will, and piously dispose for my soul and for the souls to whom I am most bound, as I have by word of mouth declared to them, and in writings patent have inserted, &c."†

A. D.
1452, Robert Blyklyng of Norwich, esq.—"I will that the Austin Friars should celebrate in their conventual church *placebo*, with the exequies, when they shall be warned (by my executors); and on the day following, at nine of the clock, a mass of St. Mary, at which said mass they are bound

* *Rot. Cart.* 13 Edward II. † *Rot. Cart. Civ.*—10 Henry V.

A. D.

for ever to pray for the souls of Simon Blyklyng and other their benefactors, as in the indentures between them made, more fully appeareth. And I bequeath to them, moreover, that they may in like manner duly have in perpetual remembrance, in the mass aforesaid, the souls of Roger Blyklyng, and of Anne his wife, and of me, the aforesaid Robert, and of Margaret my wife, and of our parents and benefactors, forty shillings."*

1470, William Petyson, citizen of Norwich, fishman, bequeathed to the repair of their church, twenty shillings.†

1473, Sampson Bocle, (or Boole) to the repair of their houses, forty shillings.‡

1516, Isabell Norwich, widowe, willed to be buried in the churchyard of St. Martyn at the Bayle, in Norwich. "Item.—I will have songe at *Scala Celi*, five masses at the Austin Friars, in Norwich. Item.—I will have a trentall songe for my sowle, and all my frendys sowles, at the four orders of Freres, in Norwich."§

Concerning the *Scala Celi*, or Ladder of Heaven, I have found mention also of a *Scala Celi* at London;‖ and of a chapel at Westminster, called *Scala Celi*.¶ The people were made to believe, that the saying of masses at one of these altars of *Scala Celi* procured very extraordinary benefit to the soul, when in purgatory: but the principal was the *Scala Celi* at Rome, which is mentioned before. All the other places under that name were so many small branches of it, and purchased, no doubt, for good sums of money.

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* *Reg. Aleyn*, f. 230. † *Reg. Jekkys*, f. 173. ‡ *Reg. Paynot.*, f. 15.
§ *Reg. Archid. Norw.* ‖ *Reg. Spyltimber*, f. 315. ¶ *Reg. Spirleng*, f. 23.

It being found for the benefit of the friars that they should be executors of the wills of rich persons, contrary to the rules of their order, licences were therefore granted to some of them, that they might be ready qualified against an occasion of advantage offered. Take a note of one such licence:—"Be it known to all men, that I, Friar John, unworthy prior-provincial of the Friars Hermits of the order of St. Austin, in England, have granted licence to Friar John Alriche, of the convent of Norwich, to appear before any ordinaries, for the executorship of two or three testaments of his friends, and to observe them effectually. Dated in the convent of Norwich, A. D. 1366, the twenty-third of July."*

THE CHURCH.

The length of the church of the Austin Friars of Norwich contained one hundred and forty (*gradus*) paces; the breadth of it, thirty-eight paces. The length, from the west part of the choir, and through the nave of the church to the east window, seventy-two paces.

The arms of Sir John Fastolf, knight, are in the first window, on the north side of the choir, before the principal altar. The length of the body of the nave of the church (*citra*) on this side the (*valvas*) doors, contained sixty paces.†

ALTARS MENTIONED.

The rode altar, A.D. 1485; the altar of *Scala Celi* in the Austin Friars, A.D. 1518.

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* *Reg. Cobalde*, f. 93.

† *Willis' Priors, &c.*, Addend. p. 329, from *Will. of Worcester's Survey*, made in Henry the sixth's time, p. 149.

IMAGES.

Image of St. Laurence, A. D. 1512; a light before the image of St. Margaret, A. D. 1525; the images of St. Christopher and St. Erasmus here are also mentioned.*

GUILDS.

The guild of St. Margaret, in the Austin Friars, A. D. 1512, 1516, and 1529.

The guild of St. Austin, held by the shoemakers, and the guild of the Holy Cross, held there A. D. 1492.

PRIORS.

Frater Richerus de Lammesse, Prior Fratrum Ord. S. Aug. Norwic. A. D. 1367.†

Doctor Hugh .....; and after him, the twenty-seventh and twenty-ninth years of Henry the eighth, Doctor Stokes was prior.‡

A. D. 1538.—Upon the suppression of the houses of friars in general, this monastery of the Austin Friars was also suppressed on the twenty-ninth of August, and wholly dissolved by the king's commission.§ As far as I can find, the church was presently demolished, as afterwards the buildings of the monastery, so that now nothing of them remains to be seen; the place where all stood being made gardens long since, and known by the name of the *Lord's Garden*, on the east side of Conesford street; having passed through many hands since the suppression.

For first it was in the tenure of Sir John Godsalve, knight, (in farm I suppose): afterwards, namely A. D. 1548,

* *Coll. D. Tanner. Canc. ex Depos. N.* 183.

† *Coll. D. Tanner. Canc. ex Instrum. super approp. E. S. Mich. Conesf.*

‡ *Lib. Cur.* 27 Henry VIII.—*Comp. Camer.* 29 Henry VIII.

§ See before, p. 41.

king Edward the sixth granted the premises to Sir Thomas Hennage of Haynton, in the county of Lincoln, knight, and to Sir William Willoughby, knight, Lord Willoughby of Parham in the county of Suffolk, in consideration of sundry manors, rectories, possessions, &c. conveyed by them to the crown; namely, *inter alia*, he granted them all the site and precinct of the Austin Friars in the city of Norwich, and that place of land as it is enclosed with stone walls, called *Consforthe place*, and all the orchards, gardens, fishings within the limits and precinct of the said place, containing by estimation two acres, now or late in the tenure or occupation of Sir John Godsalve, knight, or his assigns, in the said city. To hold to them and their heirs of the king, as of the honour of Bollingbrooke, in the said county of Lincoln, by fealty only, in *free socage*, and not in *capite*. By his letters patent, dated at Burnedyche, the seventeenth of August, in the second year of his reign.* The same year, the eighteenth of October, they sold it to Sir John Godsalve afore-mentioned.

A. D.

1557, William Godsalve to William Myngay, the twenty-third of February, the third and fourth years of Philip and Mary.

1561, William Myngay to John Otber, *alias* Barnard, the fifteenth of April, the third year of Elizabeth.

1564, John Otber to Andrew Quash, the fifteenth of February, the sixth year of Elizabeth.

1566, Andrew Quash, to Robert Green the elder, the twentieth of June, the eighth year of Elizabeth.

1590, A recovery was had of the premises in the Guildhall court of Norwich, before the mayor and sheriffs, by virtue of a writ of right, by John Pettus, mer-

* *Pat.* 2 Edward VI., *pars* 7.

chant, and Augustine Whall, grocer, against Thomas Pettus, jun. and Richard Whall, which said John and Augustine thereupon granted the same to Robert Greene of Norwich, gentleman, and John Blundevyle of Catton, gentleman, their heirs and assigns, to have and to hold to the use following: namely, to the use of Theodora, the wife of the said John Blundevyle, (and mother of the said Robert Greene) for the term of her life, and after her decease then to the use of the said Robert Greene, his heirs and assigns for ever. So that he, his heirs, executors, or administrators, should pay to the said John Blundevyle, at the first feast of St. Michael next after the decease of the said Theodora, if he should be then alive, twenty pounds; and at Lady Day next, other twenty pounds, if he should be then alive; and so at every feast of St. Michael and Lady Day during his life, twenty pounds, &c. Dated the twenty-second of June, the thirty-second year of Elizabeth.

And therefore, the thirty-sixth year of Elizabeth, the premises are mentioned by the name of "Mr. Blundevyle, his ground, called the Augustine Freres," and mention is made of a cockey or drain through it.*

A. D.

1603, Robert Greene, the son, sold the premises to Sir William Paston and Mr. John Jermy, by indenture dated the fourth of May, the first year of James.

1609, They, to Sir Thomas Knyvett.

1631, Thomas Knyvett of Ashwellthorp, esq., (grand-child and heir of Sir Thomas Knyvett, knight, late of

* *Lib. Cong.* 36 Elizabeth, f. 128.

the same, deceased) and Katherine his wife, sold the premises for two hundred and thirty pounds, to Peter Witherick of Norwich, innkeeper,* by indenture dated the seventeenth of January, 6 Car.

The same year (the plague being then in Norwich,) two aldermen were appointed by the court of mayoralty, the twentieth of April, 1631, to confer with Peter Witherick, about hiring of his close in Conesford, called "the Fryers," for pest-houses there to be made, who would let his said close to this city for fourteen pounds per annum.† But I don't find that pest-houses were built in it: neither was it a proper place, being too much within the city. Afterwards it came into the hands of the Lord Henry Howard, (about 1662), who built a pleasure-house at the north-west corner, next the street, and made fine gardens here, and maintained them at a great expense; whence it has been ever since called by the name of "my Lord's Garden." A fine bowling-green was in it and pleasant gravel walks, whither the ladies were used daily to resort towards even, during the time of the assizes in this city, to divert themselves with walking. Mr. * * * Bosely is now the owner, and lets it out to a gardener, who broke up the bowling-ground, &c., to plant trees and other things to his best profit.

THE WHITE FRIARS.

Concerning the Carmelites, or White Friars, we are told that, about A. D. 1200, (others say A. D. 1160,) the order of the Carmelites was instituted in Syria, at Mount Carmel, by Albert, patriarch of Jerusalem—a man famous for learning and sanctity, who composed,‡ (others say Brocardus, their

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* *Cart. &c.* P.L.N.N. † *Lib. Cur.* Bale, *Cent.* III. 41.

second (preses) governor, composed,) and Albert abridged and confirmed a rule for them, and granted them many privileges. He appointed for their habit that they should wear an upper (*capam*) cloak (*ex serico*) of silk, encompassed round with certain large borders, namely, of white and grey, after the manner (as they say) of Elijah the prophet, or Elisha: others say they were striped of white and reddish or russet. This order was spread over the world in abundance, but suffered much opposition from adversaries. At length, Pope Honorius the third, in the first year of his popedom, (namely A. D. 1217) changing first their bordered (*clamydas*) cloaks or mantles, for the honour of Blessed Mary, into white only, approved and confirmed this order, under the title of Blessed Mary the Virgin, of Mount Carmel.*

A. D.

1240, These friars came first into England.†

1260, The Carmelite Friars, seeing the hatred and offence taken by the people against the preachers and minors, shook off from themselves the offices of inquisition and execution of causes, together with the care of nuns. For which reason, there were always fewer cardinals of this order and of the Austin Friars, than of the other sects of mendicants.‡

1285, Pope Honorius the fourth attained the triple crown. He confirmed the order of the Carmelites, and gave them many privileges; which order had not been sufficiently approved in the Lateran council, and was impugned by many persons.§

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* *Suppl. Suppli. Chronicarum.*

† Leland, *de Script. Britan.* c. 275. Bale, *Script. Cent.* IV. 1.

‡ Bale, *Script. Cent.* IV. 31. § *Suppl. Suppli. Chronicarum.*

Mr. Weever hath related the foundation of their monastery, in Norwich, thus, namely,—"The religious monastery of the White Friars, or Carmelites, was founded by Philip Cowgate, a rich merchant, and mayor of this city, A. D. 1268, who, when he had made an end of the fabrick thereof, which he endowed with fair possessions, took upon him the habit and order of a Carmelite, and entered the house, wherein he ended his days."*

But in this account are some plain mistakes, as in calling the founder a mayor of Norwich, when there was no such officer here till more than an hundred years after, (neither was he one of the bailiffs;) a mistake also in the year, and in saying he endowed them with possessions, &c.

A plain and authentic account of their foundation here remains in one of the books of the guildhall of Norwich, under the title of "*Evidencie ad cognoscend. scituationem fratrum Carmelitarum Ordinis beate Marie Virginis*," wherein are extracts of several ancient deeds, namely:—"Know all men present and to come, that I, Philip, the son of Warin, son of Adam Arnald, have given and granted, and by my present charter confirmed, to Master William de Southfeld, archdeacon of Norwich, and to his heirs or assigns, all my messuage in the city of Norwich, with all buildings contained in it in Cowgate," &c. Which said messuage the friars of the order aforesaid entered to inhabit A. D. 1256, the fortieth year of the reign of king Henry, the son of king John. And this charter was read and delivered by the hands of Philip, the son of Warin, son of Adam, in a full court of Norwich, on the Thursday next after the Feast of St. Matthew, in the forty-first year of the said king Henry. "To all people who shall see or hear this present writing, Master William

* *Weever's Fun. Mon.*

de Southfeld, archdeacon of Norwich, greeting. Know ye all, that that whole messuage which I bought (*emi**) of Philip Cowgate, the son of Warin, son of Adam Arnald, in the city of Norwich, with all the buildings in the same messuage contained. If the friars of Carmel there shall not inhabit the said messuage, or, after they have begun to inhabit it, shall leave it with a purpose (*animo*†) of not dwelling there longer, it shall revert to the said Philip and his heirs, freely, quietly, and entirely, without the contradiction of me, or my heirs, or successors, or assigns," &c.

"Know, &c., that I, John de Norwich, son of Basilla de Cowgate, have given, granted, and by these presents have confirmed to God and Blessed Mary and all Saints, and to the friars of Mount Carmel, residing in the city of Norwich, namely, in Cowgate, there serving God, and to their successors, in pure and perpetual alms, for the health of my soul, and of my ancestors, my messuage," &c.

"Know all men, that I, Adam le Blount of Norwich, and Agnes Moone my wife, have given, &c. for us and our heirs for ever, to the friars of Blessed Mary of Mount Carmel, dwelling in the city of Norwich, namely in Cowgate," &c.‡

In the fourteenth of Edward the first, the jury presented before the justices itinerant, that the friars of Mount Carmel had made a purpresture in the king's river, which contained in length twenty feet, and in breadth two feet.§

Afterwards, they obtained by gift or purchase all the messuages and grounds adjacent, till at last they had the whole of the land, &c., lying between the bridge, from

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* In the Friars' Exemplification, A. D. 1533, it is thus, namely,—
"*Quod mihi dedit et commisit, Philippus, &c.*"

† Alias, *omnino.* ‡ *Lib. Cartar et Placitor. in Guildhall.*

§ *Rot. presentationum coram S. de Roff, &c.*—14 Edward I.

them called White Friars' bridge south, to St. James's churchyard north, and from the said street of Cowgate west, backward to the walls of the city east. I have seen the grants of several parts of it.

The said friars had licence of king Edward the second, to purchase one messuage of Thomas B * * *, in Norwich, for enlarging their mansion.*

Also the following instrument was acknowledged before the bailiffs of the city, on Tuesday, the eve of St. Matthew, in the eighth year of Edward the third:—"To all, &c. Friar Thomas de Salthous, prior of the Carmelite Friars of Norwich, and the convent of the same, greeting. Whereas, we have for enlarging our mansion purchased one messuage sometime of Richard ate Grene, lying between our mansion north, and the river of Wensum and the messuage sometime of Alane de Cattone south, whereof the east head abutteth on our aforesaid messuage, and the west head abutteth on the king's way; and the same head extendeth itself directly over against the street which is called Fisheregate, to hold to us and our successors, which said messuage is held immediately of the prior and convent of Hikelingg, by the service of forty-pence yearly. We therefore, for having the licence of the same prior and convent for purchasing and entering upon their said fee, do grant and acknowledge for us and our successors to hold the said messuage of the aforesaid prior and convent and their successors, by the service of forty-pence aforesaid, to be paid them yearly."†

N. B.—The licence of Richard, prior, and the convent of Hickling, for the friars to purchase this messuage, is entered the same day in the roll.

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* *Pat.* 16 Edward II., *pars* 1, *m.* 30. P.L.N.N. † *Rot. Cart.* 8 Edward III.

The said friars had the tenements on the north side of this messuage before the thirty-third year of Edward the first. For, among the presentments of the leet this year, we find William Tutte presented, for having taken away a certain boundsmark placed between the friars of Mount Carmel and Richard atte Grene.*

In the eighteenth year of Edward the third, the bailiffs and commonalty of Norwich granted, and as much as in them lay confirmed, to the said friars and their successors for ever, a lane called Seynt James's Wente, in the parish of St. James, between the mansion of the said friars west, and a messuage sometime of Richard de Erpyngham east, and abutting on the the king's way north, and the (*regiam viam, lego ripam*) king's river south.†

But, because done without the king's licence, contrary to the statute of mortmain, therefore the friars were obliged to procure the king's pardon, which they obtained of the following import:—

"Edward, by the Grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland, to all, &c. Know ye, that of our special grace we have pardoned to our beloved in Christ, the prior and friars, &c., of Norwich, the transgression which they committed, by acquiring to themselves and successors, for the enlargement of their mansion, a certain lane in the said city, called 'Seynt James's Wente,' containing twenty perches in length, and ten feet in breadth, of the bailiffs of the same city, without our licence, &c.; and do grant, that they may have and hold the said lane for enlargement of their said mansion for ever; the statute of not putting lands to mortmain, &c., notwithstanding. Witness myself, at Westminster, the thirteenth of February,

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* *Rot. Lete*, 33 Edward I. † *Doomsday, Civ.* f. 78.

in the year of our reign of England nineteen, and of France the sixth."*

And, having obtained these additions to their precinct, they about this time founded a new, and without doubt, a more spacious and magnificent church than their old one was. But it was about forty years' time before finished; as may appear from the following extracts out of a manuscript of John Bale, in the Bodleian Library in Oxford, namely,—

"A. D. 1343.—We entered the new choir.

"A. D. 1344.—The new churchyard was dedicated by (*fratrem*) friar or monk, John Paschall, bishop and suffragan of William, lord bishop of Norwich.

"A. D. 1382.—Our church was dedicated by (*fratrem*) friar or monk, Thomas, bishop of Scutari, suffragan of the Lord Henry Spenser, bishop of Norwich."†

King Richard the second also licensed them to obtain another messuage, as follows, namely,—

"Richard, by the Grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland, to all, &c. Although the statute, &c.,—of our special grace, and for half a mark paid us into our hamper, we have granted, &c., to Adam Pope, parson of the church of Southreppys, Reginald de Ekkles, Henry Lymnour, Nicholas de Blakeneye, and Jeffrey de Somertone, that they may give and assign to our beloved in Christ, the prior and friars of the order of Blessed Mary of Mount Carmel, in Norwich, one messuage, and one gardine containing ten perches in length and five perches in breadth, with their appurtenances, in Norwich, contiguous to the mansion and churchyard of the said friars, which are held of us in burgage, and which are worth nothing yearly over and above the reprises, as by an inqui-

* *Lib. Cartar et Plitor.* † *Coll. D. Tanner, Canc.*

sition thereupon made by the exchaetor of Norfolk at our command, and returned into our chancery has been found, to hold to them and their successors for ever, for enlargement of their said mansion. Witness myself at Westminster, the ninth day of June, in the third year of our reign."*

In the langable rental of the fourth of Henry the seventh, these friars are charged (in St. Edmund's parish) two-pence half-penny for divers tenements which they had purchased.

After these friars were settled here, the prior and monks of the cathedral church, being jealous (as well they might) that the friars would intercept some of the oblations usually paid to their parish churches adjacent, did therefore procure from the said friars the following instrument, namely:—

"To all the faithful people of Christ, to whom the present writing shall come, the Friars of Mount Carmel, in Norwich, greeting in the Lord. Know ye all, that by the tenor of these presents, we have obliged ourselves, for us and our successors (*sub religione Sacramenti nostri,*) under our solemn oath, that we will not knowingly receive any oblations from the parishioners of the churches of the lord prior and the convent of Norwich, namely, of the churches of St. Martin before the gates of the bishop in Norwich, of St. James, and of St. Paul, to the damage of the churches aforesaid. And if any thing of oblation shall be received by us of the said parishioners, we will presently restore it to the said churches. In testimony of which thing, we have caused our seal to be affixed to the present writing, and have procured the seal of the consistory of Norwich to be affixed."†

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* *Lib. Cart. et Placitor. Pat.* 3, *R.* 2. *part* 3, *m*....

† *Reg.* 1, *E. Cath. N.* f. 260.

I have seen the original thereof in the cathedral church.—It has no date, but is in a hand of Henry the third, or Edward the first's time. The friar's seal is lost; but the label to which it was fixed remains, whereon is written part of a line of the same hand with the deed, and seems to have been designed at first for the beginning of the said deed, namely, "Fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit frater Rogerus;" so that one Roger was probably at that time prior of the White Friars. The seal of the consistory remains, and it is the same with that which is affixed to William Dunwich's wife's will, namely, a church.

The two following compositions were afterwards made between them, namely:—

"Know all men by (these) presents, that whereas certain matters of discord have been moved between the prior and convent of the cathedral church, and the prior and convent of Carmelites, by occasion of the acquiring and occupation of messuages, late being in the parish of St. James, in the city of Norwich, which the said prior and convent of the friars of the order of Carmelites of the said city have lately included in their close and mansion, and of the subtraction of the oblations and other parish-rights of the servants of the same friars in their conventual-house with them there dwelling, belonging to the said parish church of St. James, and to the parish church of St. Martin, at the gates of the palace of the bishop of Norwich, in Norwich, &c. Now it is with mutual consent agreed, namely, that the said prior and convent of the Carmelites and their successors shall yearly pay to the said prior and convent of the cathedral church of Norwich and their successors, two shillings of sterling, for the said messuages so included, &c."

"To all the faithful people of Christ, who shall inspect or hear the present letters:—Friar Walter de Dysse, prior

of the house of the friars of the order of Blessed Mary of Mount Carmel, in the city of Norwich, and the convent of the same place, send greeting, and (desire that) firm credit be given to these presents. Know ye all, that, whereas between the reverend and religious men, brother Nicholas de Hoo, prior of the monastery or cathedral church of the Holy Trinity of Norwich, and the convent of the same monastery or church, (*in proprios usus canonicè obtinentes*) who have canonically obtained to their own proper uses certain parish churches, and amongst the rest (those) of the saints Vedast, Margaret in Fybriggate, All Saints, St. Saviour, Paul, James, Martin (at the gates of the bishop,) Giles, Gregory, Stephen, Sepulchre, John of Berstrete, Peter of per Mountergate, Cuthbert, Mary the Little, Holy Cross, Margaret of Newbrygge, George of Muspol, Olave, Martin of Coslayne, and Etheldred, in Norwich, of the one part; and us, Friar Walter, the prior and convent of the aforesaid house of the other part, on occasion of the sepulture of the bodies of the parishioners of either sex, of the same prior and convent of the cathedral church at our same house, choosing to be buried; and of the fourth part of the funeral obventions, and others of the same persons so choosing, there has been a great (*gravis*) or grievous matter of question or complaint. At length, the divine inspiration mediating, we have (*conquievimus*) acquiesced in this manner, by the present letters obligatory to remain for ever, namely, that when, and so often as it shall happen, that a parishioner of the same religious men shall be buried at our house, we, the prior and friars aforesaid, and our successors in the same, priors and friars in their times, successively for ever, shall faithfully and entirely (avoiding fraud, deceit, and malice) without delay, truly pay a free and entire fourth part of all obventions, to be applied to us or to

our house for future, on occasion of the said parishioners. And as the preachers and minors, and as much as by force of the Clementine constitution, which beginneth "*Dudum*," by the law itself, they are bound, obliged, and constrained, and not in other manner, we will to be bound, obliged, and constrained to the payment of the aforesaid fourth part, (*modo et his quibus supra persolvendam*) which is to be paid them as above-mentioned, according to the whole exigence and tenor of the said constitution, speaking of the friars preachers and minors, and we bind ourselves and our successors, priors and friars in the same, and the house itself, effectually by (these) presents. In testimony of all which things, we have affixed the common seal of our house or our chapter to these presents. Given in our chapter-house at Norwich, the eighteenth day of the month November, anno domini one thousand three hundred and seventy-six."

Accordingly, we find in the yearly accounts of the several officers of the monastery of the cathedral church, payments made to them by the said friars. As, in the account of the precentor, in the ninth year of Henry the sixth:—"Received of the Carmelite Friars, at the feasts (or synods, as it is in another account) of St. Michael and Easter, for (or in lieu of) the profits formerly arising from the parishioners who dwelt in the messuages, some time of John Pulham and Richard Erpyngham, in the parish of St. James, included in their (*clausuram*) close (or precinct), and for the offerings of their servants, two shillings. Item.—For the rent of a certain shop, some time of Richard Thedham, in the Flesh-market of the commonalty of Norwich, paid for (or in lieu of the profits of the parishioners who dwell in) one messuage, some

* *Reg.* 1 *Eccles. Cath. N.*, f. 260.

time of the Lady Joan de Castone, included within their close, in the parish aforesaid, two shillings."

And in another accompt, in the second year of Edward the fourth, of the same friars, for the messuages aforesaid, &c., "and for the canonical fourth part and for mortuaries, according to the composition, six shillings and eight-pence."*

Also, the almoner received of them yearly twenty pence for the said canonical fourth part and for mortuaries, according to the composition aforesaid.† In like manner, the *refectorarius* received eight-pence for the same.‡ And the *infirmarius* received of the precentor, three shillings and four-pence for his part of the said friars' composition-money.§ Because some of the aforesaid churches were appropriated to one of the said offices, some to another, as elsewhere appears, therefore each of those offices received a proportion of the allowance or payment aforesaid.

A. D. 1270.—In a full synod of the order of Carmelites, held at Norwich, William Hanaberg, a Carmelite of London, was constituted prior-provincial of the said order in England, upon the decease of Roger Crostwick, his predecessor.‖

A. D. 1401.—In September, Thomas Arundell, archbishop of Canterbury, came to Norwich, to compose the differences between the bishop and the prior and convent of Norwich, and lodged at the Friars Carmelites.¶

A. D. 1488.—The Carmelite Friars acknowledged the mayor, aldermen, and citizens of Norwich for their founders, by the following canting instrument:—

"To the man of discretion to be extolled, the mayor of the city of Norwich, to the aldermen, sheriffs, merchants,

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* *Compot. Precentoris, E. Cath.*—9 Henry VI. and 2 Edward IV.
† *Compot. Elemosin. E. Cath.*—2 Edward IV., 1 Richard III., &c.
‡ *Compot. Refect. E. Cath.*—1496. § *Compot. Infirm.*—1515.
‖ Bale, *Script. Cent.*, IV., 45. ¶ *Reg. Rub. Burg.*, f. 37.

and the rest of the con-citizens of the same city, present and to come, for ever. Your continual orators and poor servants, Friar John, prior-provincial of the order of Blessed Mary, the mother of God, of Mount Carmel, and the (*diffinitores*) judges of the provincial chapter of the order aforesaid, celebrated in the town of Brunham, anno domini one thousand four hundred and eighty six, on the feast of the assumption of the glorious virgin, (wisheth) all manner (*reverentiam*) of worship and honour, and to live in him always who saveth those that hope in him. (*Recolendi viri,*) honourable men, we acquaint your worships that Philip Cowgate, a citizen and sometime a merchant of your very noble city, was the first founder of our convent in the same; who being departed from this valley of tears, we have not been able to find unto this present any one whom we so lawfully might or may call founder as the merchants and other con-citizens of your city, even as (*vivæ vocis oraculo*) by word of mouth, Friar Thomas Waterpytte, Bachelor of Divinity, prior of the said convent of your aforesaid city, has more fully signified to your worships, upon whose supplications and instances, for the reverence of the virgin and mother of God, special protectress and patroness of the same order, (*vestræ devocionis circumscripta probitas*) the strict soundness of your devotion favourably (*consenserit*) consented. That thenceforth the name of founder of the aforesaid convent should be ascribed to your very worthy persons, for whom, for reward (thereof) together with the benefits to us, and for the profit of the friars exhibited by you, we have decreed that prayers be poured out with the rest of the founders of other convents, to be done for ever. Oh! how happy and how holy a purpose and great indication of a christian mind! What can be thought of more blessed, what more holy, than in

this mortal body to do that thing without delay, whereby the (*consortium*) fellowship of eternal felicity may be obtained? which cannot be done, if, whilst in the body, any one neglects to purchase the very delectable suffrages of the church. Witness Augustine, *de Civitate Dei*, thus (*applaudente*) approving, (*Frustra hoc homo post hoc corpus inquirit, quod, hoc corpore potitus, sibi comparare neglexit,*) in vain does a man seek that thing after this body, which, whilst in this body, he neglected to obtain. We therefore, by our authority, by the tenor of (these) presents, do admit you all as united, and accept for founders of our convent of your aforesaid city for ever. And, as much as with God we can, we grant you a perpetual participation of all the masses, prayers, fastings, watchings, preachings, abstinences, indulgences, labours, and of all other the good things which the clemency of (our) Saviour shall vouchsafe to be wrought by our brethren, in the province of England; humbly praying God, that he will remove from you all things that are hurtful, and grant you all things which may profit. These things are done, the year, day, and place above-mentioned, and by the venerable men, John Wellys then mayor, and John Pynchemore and John Castre, sheriffs, and also by the aldermen and all the citizens, approved, ratified, and granted. In testimony of all which things, to the one part of this indenture, remaining with the aforesaid mayor and the rest of the con-citizens, in the common chest of the often-mentioned city, the aforesaid prior and convent have caused their common seal to be affixed. And to the other part of the same indenture, remaining with the aforesaid prior and convent, the mayor, sheriffs, and the rest of the con-citizens before-mentioned have affixed their common seal of the city. Dated the eleventh day of the month of May, anno domini one thousand four hundred

and eighty-eight, and in the third year of the reign of king Henry the seventh, after the Conquest."*

A. D. 1498.—At an assembly held on the third day of May, the following instrument of privilege was granted to the said friars, namely,—

"To all faithful people of Christ, to whom the present writing shall come, the mayor, sheriffs, aldermen, and commonalty of the city of Norwich, perpetual founders of the house and church of the Friars Carmelites in Norwich, everlasting health in the Lord. Know ye that we, the aforesaid mayor, sheriffs, aldermen, and commonalty (*intuitu caritatis*) in the way of charity, and for perpetual memory of the thing, have given and granted to the prior and convent of the house and church aforesaid, and to their successors, that they and their successors for ever be quit of all toll and custom towards us and our successors, and all our officers, of and for their carriages in and through the whole city, for their own proper things, in any manner from henceforth to be conducted or carried, as well by land as by water, in and through the whole city, for the sustentation of their house. Provided always, that if the aforesaid prior and convent, or their successors, under colour of this grant (*provocant seu provocari faciunt*) shall procure, or cause to be procured, any person to bring or carry into the aforesaid city, by land or by water, under the name of the said prior and convent, or of their successors, any goods or chattels which shall not belong to the special sustentation of the aforesaid house, to defraud the beforementioned mayor, sheriffs, aldermen, and commonalty, and their successors, of their toll and custom; and this shall be proved before the mayor of the city aforesaid for the time being, and two or three of his brethren, by two or

* *Autograph in Guildhall Civitatis.*

three credible persons of the aforesaid city; then the present grant shall be void and held for nothing. In testimony of which thing, the common seal of the city of Norwich is appended to the presents. Dated in the guildhall of the said city, in a full assembly there held, on the Feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross, in the thirteenth year of the reign of king Henry the seventh, after the conquest."*

A confirmation of the preceding account of the foundation of the said white friars' monastery, and of the title of founder to the city, we have in the following instrument; as also mention of the claim made thereto on the part of the Earl of Northumberland.—"To the worshipful man, the prefect or mayor of the city of Norwich, to the aldermen, sheriffs, and merchants, and the rest of the con-citizens of the same city, present and to come, your always humble orators and perpetual poor servants, Friar Thomas, doctor of sacred divinity and prior of the convent, in Norwich, of the friars of the order of Mary the Mother of God, of Mount Carmel, and all the friars of the said convent, greeting, and to live always in Him who saveth those which hope in Him:—because lately, when we humbly appealed to you, that you would acknowledge our place (for) your foundation, by yearly visiting it, whereby it might be the more publicly known to all and singular the inhabitants of this city, that they, by this name (namely, of founder) do more particularly above others participate of our suffrages, it was reclaimed by the honourable man of illustrious family, the Lord Alane Percye, (*germani fratris*) brother of the late Lord Henry Percye, Earl of Northumberland, who, before (*omnium vestrûm senatu*) your whole assembly, openly protested that it could not be done by you without the

* *Lib. Congr. C.*, fol. 30.

greatest injury, not only of the said noble earl, his brother, but also of the whole family, alleging that our place was in old time founded by his progenitors, which indeed, that it was not so, but by one Philip Cowgate, merchant, and your con-citizen, was found by our evidences then produced and examined. Wherefore, by you (as it is always the part of a most righteous judge, inclined to embrace the truth, without respect of any, though a great person) it was requested that, from the evidences themselves of our foundation, we would transfer a copy and exemplar into a certain charter, confirmed by our common seal, and commend the same into your hands, (*unde obstrepentibus quibuscunque respondeatur,*) that you may always have it in readiness, therefrom to answer all those who clamour to the contrary. Which said request, whereas it is godly and just, would be not only ungrateful but unjust, if we should deny it to you. Our first foundation, therefore, so far as from our evidences and charters can be collected, we have taken care to transfer to you into this charter, under the form here following:—'Know all men present and to come, that I, Philip, son of Warin, the son of Adam Ernold, have given and granted, and by this my present charter confirmed, to Master William de Southfeld, archdeacon of Norwich, and to his heirs and assigns, all my messuage in the city of Norwich, with all the edifices contained therein, which lies between the messuage of Ralph the chaplain, vicar of Wrottyng, towards the south, and that messuage which Robert de Holverstone some time held, towards the north, the length whereof extendeth itself from the king's way, called Cowgate, on the part of the west, unto the ditch which is next the same messuage, on the part of the east.'—Thus far in the first charter. But, that it may be more fully known to you, for what use

and under what conditions the aforesaid Philip committed, gave, and granted the messuage aforesaid, to the said Master William de Southfeld, we think it no trouble to transcribe for you also, that which is written immediately in a certain charter, in this manner :—'To all who shall see or hear the present writing, Master William de Southfeld, archdeacon of Norwich, greeting, &c., (as before recited.') Hitherto, out of the second charter, which heirs and successors of the aforesaid Philip we know not to this day, nor ever acknowledged others to be, than you the mayor, senators or aldermen, merchants and sheriffs, concitizens of the famous city, which, indeed, certain indentures between us and the mayors our predecessors, made anno domini one thousand four hundred and eighty-six, in our provincial chapter, celebrated at Brunham, on the Feast of the Assumption of Blessed Mary, do testify so to be, whereof the one part also remaineth with you, sealed with our common seal, the other part in exchange with us, confirmed with the common seal of your city; where it is evident that you, by your predecessors, by the unanimous consent of all the citizens, did freely and thankfully accept to your persons the title of the foundation, and willed that it should thenceforth be ascribed to you. We trust therefore, yea, we beseech in the Lord, that, for the opposition or reclaim of any persons, ye should not waver, hesitating in this matter, forasmuch, as now at length we have explained our foundation so manifestly out of our most ancient evidences, satisfying your desires in all things. For the truth and force whereof, by the unanimous consent of the whole convent, we have caused our common seal to be appended to these presents, anno domini one thousand five hundred and thirty-three, on the twenty-fourth day of April."*

* *Autograph in Guildhall Civitatis.*

PERSONS BURIED IN THE CHURCH OF THE WHITE FRIARS.

It appears that the following persons were buried in the church of these friars, from their wills :—

A. D.

1373, Sir Geffrey Wyth of Smalbergh, knight.

1376, John de Saxlinghamthorp, chaplain.

1391, Sir William de Bradefield.

1391, Also Alice, sometime wife of Sir Martin Everard, knight.

1423, John de Erlham, citizen and merchant of Norwich.

1433, Sir Edmund Barry, knight, in the chapel of Blessed Mary, and dame Alice his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Gerbrigge.*

1440, Christina, late wife of Peter Savage of Norwich, in the chapel of the Holy Cross, before the image of Blessed Ann there.†

1457, John Saberne of Norwich, hayreman, willed that his body should be buried in the holy sepulture of the regular or conventual church of the Carmelite Friars of Norwich.‡

1459, William Norwyche, senior, citizen of Norwich, rafman, near the sepulchre of Walter Norwyche, his father, and of Agnes, late his, the said William's, wife.§

1467, John Gedge of Norwich, fuller, and gave to the repair of their church twenty shillings.‖

1479, William Gladen of Norwich, notary, and gave forty shillings; and to every friar, being a priest, two shillings; and to every other friar eight-pence.

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* *Weever.* † *Reg. Doke*, f. 154. ‡ *Reg. Brosyard*, f. 92.
§ *Reg. Brosyard*, f. 210. ‖ *Reg. Jekkys*, f. 73.

A. D.
1494, Sir William Calthorpe, knight. "I will that my body be buried in the Whyte Frerys, at Norwich, where the place of my sepulture is made; and the day of my buryelle, I wylle be disposed to pore pepylle, to praie for my sowle, forty marks in pence; and more if nede be. Also, I wylle that the Whyte Fryerys aforesaid have ten marks for the repaire of their churche and place; and they to pray for my sowle and frendys sowlys. Item.—I wyll that Fryer Thomas Waterpepe synge for my sowle, and my wyfe's and frendys sowlys, by the space of three years, at the auter where my sepulture is: and that, after the gospelle, he seye opynly at every masse, *De profundis*, for my sowle, &c.; and he to have six marks per annum for his labour."*

1503, John Osteler of Norwich, fishmonger, otherwise called John Patherton, and gave to every friar, being a priest, four-pence; and to every novice, being no priest, two-pence; to the repair of the church, twenty-six shillings and eight-pence; and eight marks to them, to pray for his soul, &c.†

1503, Elizabeth Aslake, "wydow, late the wyffe of Thomas Aslake, esquier, in the chappel of our lady, in the south parte of the chirch of the White Freres, in Norwiche."‡

1511, Thomas Walters, citizen and alderman of Norwich, by Margaret, "sumtyme his wiff," and gave to the repair of the same place forty shillings.§

1512, "Jamys Hamond of Rakheith, before the ymage of oure lady."

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* *Reg. Wolman*, 1494. † *Reg. Archid. N.* ‡ *Reg. Popye*, f. 261.
§ *Reg. Johnson*, f. 212.

A. D.

1523, "John Hevyngham, clerk, parson of Kesewyk, within the White Freris, in Norwich, at the Jemowe dore, by my mother. To which place I bequethe all my goodes that are there, and also the money arising of the sale of two tenements."*

1529, Margaret Beamond. "Item.—I wyll that the howse of Whyte Fryers aforesaid shall have the use of the profightes of my messuage, garden, and appurtenances, in the paryshe of St. Austen yerely, durynge ninety-nine yeres; on condition that they celebrate for my soule, &c. every yere four tymes, namely, at Mighelmas, Cristmas, Eastre, and Whitesontyde, in their sayde howse, a dyryge and a messe. And that at iche of them they have a peny candell brenynge byfore the blessed sacrament of the aultare there; and also, that the prior shall distribute amonge the said Whyte Fryers a pitance to the value of two shillings. The residue of the saide profightes, &c. to remain to the use of the aforesayde howse, they repayring the said messuage, &c.; and at the end of the term to be sold by the then feoffees, and the money given to the sayde fryers, to pray for my sowle, &c. And if the said friers, during the said ninety-nine yeres, shall fail in observing the premises, the church of St. Austin to receyve the profightes upon the same condicions."†

* * * Christian Boxforth, widow, of the parish of St. Margaret, of Fibriggate, in the north side, before the image of our blessed lady. "Item.—To the White Friers for my burial twenty shillings."‡

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* *Reg. Alablaster*, f. 217. † *Reg. Palgrave*, f. 110.

‡ The date is omitted.

For the rest, we are much beholden to Mr. Weever, who has given a large account of them, where we find—Sir Oliver Ingham, knight, obiit 1292; Dame Lo.... Argentein, (I find her called Lora, wife of Sir Reignald Argenteyne, who lived tempore Edward the first, sister of Robert de Vere, Earl of Oxon.*); Dame Eleanor Boteler; Dame Alice Boyland; Sir Bartholomew Somerton, knight, and Dame Katherine his wife; Sir William Crongthorp and Dame Alice his wife; Sir Oliver Gros, knight; John, father of Sir Ralph Benhall; Dame Jone, wife of Sir Thomas Morley; Robert Banyard, esquire; Sir Oliver Wigth, (Wyth) and Sir Peter Tye, knights: Margaret Pulham; Dame Elizabeth Hetersete; Dame Katherine, wife of Sir Nicholas Borne; Jone, wife of John Fastolphe; Thomas Crunthorp and Alice his wife; Dame Alice Wythe, 1361; Sir Walter Cotet; Sir Thomas Gerbrigge, 1430, and Dame Elizabeth his third wife, first married to Sir John Berry, and daughter of Sir Robert Wachesham, obiit 1402; Elizabeth, first wife of William Calthorpe, daughter of Sir Reignald, Lord Hastings, Waysford, and Ruthin, who died 1437; Haukin, fil ..... *de Com. Lanc.*; Clement Paston, obiit 14....; Richard 1479, George 1479, Cecily ....., John 1480, and Thomas 1480, five children of Sir William Calthorpe: John Dengayne, gentleman, obiit 1488; Robert Smart, esq., obiit 1488; Dame Margery, wife of Sir John Paston, daughter of Sir Thomas Brews, 1495; John, son of Sir William Stoarer, 1495; Margaret, wife of Sir Thomas Pigott, 1498.

Also that, in a manuscript of this Religious Order, written by John Bale, these Carmelites following are registered to have been buried in this monastery.—I will use his Latin—

* P.L.N.N.

HI SUNT VIRI ILLUSTRES QUI SEPELIUNTUR IN CONVENTU CARMELITARUM NORVICI.

Frater Gilbertus de Norvico, Episcopus Hamensis (alias Hamerensis) obiit A.D. 1287, 9 die Octobris.—This Gilbert was a learned man, and the Mæcænas to one Peter Swanyngton (a contemporary with Humphrey Necton), who took upon him the profession of a Carmelite, in the monastery of Brunham—a well-learned man, and who, first of all the Carmelites, obtained by the suffrages of the masters (*supremum nomen*) the principal name for school divinity in the University of Oxford; and flourished A. D. 1270.*

Frater Johannes Leycester, Archiepiscopus Smirnensis, obiit A.D. 1424, 6 Novembris.

Frater Umfridus Necton, obiit 1303.—This Necton was doctor of divinity in Cambridge and professor. Erat vir solidè doctus, disputator subtilis, concionator vehemens. "He was a man solidly learned, a subtle disputant, a very earnest preacher," saith Pitsæus, of whom Leland hath left this distichon:—

"Laudibus Humfridum meritis super astra feramus,
"Cui data Grantenæ laurea prima scholæ."

He writ divers books, mentioned by Bale, as also by Pitsæus.

Frater Andreas Felmingham.

Frater Robertus Walsingham, obiit 1310.—This Walsingham, saith Pitsæus, was "Vir acuti ingenii, solidi judicii, bonæ vitæ, magnæ doctrinæ."—A man of acute wit, a sound judgment, a good life, and great learning; and Bale, speaking of him saith, "he was a man of great repute in the University of Oxford for his *quodlibets* (ordinary questions,) and his interpretations of the Sacred Scriptures, which he made manifest to the world."

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* Bale, *Cent. Script.* IV., 31.

Frater Galfridus Stalham.

Frater Galfridus Mylsam (Mileham) obiit A. D. 1346, 5° Januarii.

Frater Adam Saxlingham.

Frater Johannes Folsham, prior provincialis Angliæ, obiit 1348, April 18.—This Folsham proceeded doctor of divinity in Cambridge: Pitsæus gives him his praise in a grave style. Bale (ironically) saith, "that indeed he was a doctor, and none of the meanest, for, by his chopping of logic, he could turn black into white, men into asses, and school divinity into natural philosophy: he writ many learned works."—Of him, I find elsewhere noted, "Johannes Folsham, Nordovolgius, quintodecimus prior provincialis, 1340, et rexit annos sex, Sepultus Nordovici."*

Frater Ricardus Euges (Enges) obiit 4 Julii, 1361.

Frater Willelmus de Sancta Fide, obiit 25 Aprilis, 1372.

Frater Thomas Ziburgh (Riburgh), obiit 24 Julii, 1382.

Frater Robertus Pulham.

Frater Walterus Disse, legatus apostolicus, obiit 22 Augusti, 1404.

Frater Adam Hawling, (Harling) obiit 25 Februarii, 1408.

Frater Thomas Keming (Kenninghall) obiit 26 Augusti, 1421.

Frater Robertus Rose, obiit 16 Decembris, 1420.—This Carmelite was doctor of divinity in Oxford, of whom that University had such an opinion for his learning, that they honoured him with the title of "Supreme Master." He writ much, yet never offended the Wickliffites: he lived long, and enriched his monastery of many (much), as well in estate as with divers kinds of sciences.

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* *Reyner, Apostolatus Benedictinorum, ex Baleo.*

Frater Johannes Thorpe, doctor ingeniosus, obiit 12 Augusti, 1440.—This Thorpe writ many books, as well divine as human; but for one he was remarkable, which he entitled "*The Labyrinth of Logick*," wherein he shewed so exquisitely the subtle *elenchs* of that art, that thereby he gained the surname of "Ingeniosus Doctor," which, with his epitaph, was engraven upon his tomb.

Frater Henricus Wychingham, obiit 14 Martii, 1447.

Frater Johannes Kynynghale, prior provincialis Angliæ, obiit 28 Aprilis, 1450.—The library (an edifice convenient for that use) in the convent of Norwich, was founded by Kyngnyhale.*—(And, as in Reyner's fore-cited book, he was the twenty-fourth prior provincialis, et rexit ab A. D. 1430, per 13 annos, et hìc sepult.)

Frater Johannes Taverham, obiit 19 Septembris, 1451.

Frater Petrus de Sancta Fide, 8 Novembris, 1452.

Frater Nicolaus Grey, obiit 7 Aprilis, 1458.

Frater Adam Berton.

Frater Galfridus Bee, obiit 13 Octobris, 1492.

Frater Thomas Martirxet, obiit 18 Junii, 1508.

Frater Robertus Love, prior provincialis Angliæ, 1517, (the twenty-ninth prior provincialis) ab A. D. 1505, per septem annos, et hic sepult.†

Frater Willelmus Wroxham, obiit in Conventu Caliseæ, 23 Augusti, 1383.

Frater Willelmus Raymond, obiit 1 Augusti, 1386.

Frater Henricus Myleham.

Frater Ricardus Water, obiit 5 Martii, 1485.

Frater Willelmus Worsted, obiit 11 Septembris, 1494.

Frater Thomas Penyman.

Frater Johannes Whytyng, obiit 24 Junii, 1524.

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* *Coll. D. Tanner, ex M. S.* Bale, *in Bibl. Bodl.*

† *Reyner, ibid.*

Frater Simon Pykerynge, obiit 24 Februarii, 1525.

Frater Robertus Browne; 1525.

Domina Emma, Carmelita reclusa et soror in religione, obiit 2 Decembris, 1422.

Frater Hugo de Uvedale, miles ante ingressum ordinis, obiit 10 Aprilis, 1390.

Frater Willelmus Crongethorpe, miles ante ingressum ordinis, obiit 12 Aprilis, 1332.

Frater Philippus Cowgate, magnus mercator, primus fundator conventûs, ante ingressum ordinis, obiit 23 Aprilis, 1283.

In the year 1348, from the first of January to the first of July, there died in this city of Norwich fifty-seven thousand one hundred and four persons, besides religious votaries. Whereupon, the prior and convent of this house devised a prayer for the deliverance of certain Carmelites out of purgatory, which died in that contagious sickness, as followeth:—"Deus immensæ bonitatis ac sempiternæ clementiæ, pietatis affectu pro aliis rogare cogimur, qui pro nostris peccatis nequaquam sufficimus; confisi tamen de tuâ gratuitâ benignitate humiliter deprecamur, ut per meritum passionis unigeniti atque dilecti filii tui, Jesu Christi, et per merita piissimæ matris ejus, ac omnium sanctorum atque sanctarum, animas fratrum nostrorum, et omnium fidelium defunctorum, a penis liberare digneris, qui liberâsti tres pueros de camino ignis ardentis, et de manu Regis iniqui, per eundem Christum dominum nostrum. Amen."*

Joan, the widow of Sir Robert de Castone, knight, by her will, proved before the bailiffs of Norwich, A. D. 1319, bequeathed ten marks to the Friars Carmelites, out

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* *Weever's Fun. Mon. ex M. S. Balei, de Carmelitis.*

of the money arising of the sale of her messuage in St. James' parish, that they might perform two annuals for her soul, &c. A like bequest she made to the Austin Friars.*— The Carmelites afterwards obtained the said messuage for enlargement of their place, as appears before.

CHAPELS.

The chapel of the Holy Cross, in the convent of these friars, is mentioned, A.D. 1440; and the chapel of Our Lady, in the south part of their church, A.D. 1503.

The chapel of St. Thomas, within the house of the Friars Carmelites, is also mentioned, A.D. 1526.†

IMAGES.

The image of Blessed Mary, in the chapel of Holy Cross, A.D. 1440. The image of St. Laurence, in the south side of the church, A.D. 1510; also, the image of St. Anne, in the chapel of Holy Cross.‡

LIGHTS.

Light of Our Lady, A.D. 1492. Our Lady's light, at the high-altar end, A.D. 1521.

GUILDS.

The guild of Saint Barbara, holden here A.D. 1502, 1516, and 1522. The guild of Saint Gation, A.D. 1529.

Margaret Radely, (*alias* Curteys) of Norwich, widow, A.D. 1502, gave to the said guild of St. Barbara six shillings and eight-pence.§

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* *Rot. Cart.*—13 Edward II.

† *Coll. D. Tanner, ex Reg. Ordin.*

‡ *Coll. D. Tanner, ex Reg. Doke.*

§ *Reg. Popye*, f. 247.

OF THE ANCHORITES HERE.

In this monastery, as in those of the other friars, was also an anchorite dwelling, as another bait to catch the money of superstitious people.

A. D. 1442.—Mention is made of "the anker of the Carmels."

A. D. 1443.—Friar Thomas, the recluse of the order of Friars Carmelites, is mentioned.*

A. D. 1445.—Thomas Bumsted senior bequeathed to the anchorite, dwelling in the convent of the Friars Carmelites of Norwich, six shillings and eight-pence.†

A. D. 1466.—Margaret Furbisshour, widow.—"Item. To the ancker of the White Freris, ten shillings."‡

A. D. 1494.—Johan Blackdam, widow. "Item.—To the anker of the Whyt Fryeris wythinne Norwich, into th' anker's house, ther next entreines, twelve-pence."§

A. D. 1510.—"The ankyr at Wyght Freres" is mentioned.

DIMENSIONS OF THEIR CHURCH.

The length of the cloister, on the ..... part of the choir of the church of the Friars Carmelites of Norwich, containeth in the south part, thirty-five yards or sixty paces. The length of the same, according to my paces, contains sixty paces, measured several times.—The length of the inter-space of the steeple, between the door of the choir, and the door called the porch, contains twenty-three paces.—The length of the nave of the church on the south part, contains forty-six paces. The length of the same on

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* *Reg. Doke*, f. 5. † *Reg. Wilbey*. ‡ *Reg. Jekkys*, f. 39.
§ *Reg. Multon*, f. 6.

the north part, contains ..... The breadth of the nave of the church contains thirty-six paces.*

The church seems to have stood not far from the bridge; because, in the sixteenth year of Henry the eighth, I find the bridge called "*Pons juxta Ecclesiam Fratrum Carmelitarum.*"†

Also, A. D. 1389, the south-east corner house of Fishergate is said to be against the gates of the Carmelite Friars.‡

SOME ACCOUNT OF THEIR LIBRARY.

In that (*nobili et pucherrima*) noble and very fair library of the Carmelites of Norwich, saith Bale, there were the following books, amongst many others, namely,—

Joannis Rufi, alias Reade, Dominicani (qui floruit circa, A. D. 1290.)

De Pontificibus Romanis, lib. 1.

De Imperatoribus quoque, lib. 1.§

Nicolai de Lynn, Carmelitæ (qui floruit circa, A.D.1370,) Canones Tabularum, lib. 1, Volentibus prognosticare futuros.

De nostra Zodiaci, lib. 1, ad honorem Dei et habendam.

De Planetarum domibus, lib. 1, Invenit quidam ex sapientibus.

De Sphœra judiciali, lib. 1.

Astrologorum dogmata, lib. 1.

De Figuris et Signis, lib. 1, primum signum est Aries.

De Mundi revolutione, lib. 1.

De usu Astrolabij, lib. 1.

Pro ægrotantibus, lib. 1.

De Eclipsi solis, lib. 1.

• *Willis' Account of Priors, &c., Addend.*, p. 329: *ex Collect. Will. Worcester*, p. 149.

† *Lib. Congr. C.*, f. 37. ‡ *A. E. N.* § Bale, *Cent.* IV. *Num.* 70.

De astrorum judicijs, lib. 1.

De varijs Genituris, lib. 1.

Pro suis Carmelitis, lib. 1.*

Joannis Tompson, Carmelite Blakneyensis (circa 1380,) Lecturam sententiarum, lib. 1.

Moralitates Scripturæ, lib. 1, Pulsatis fratrum instantijs, cogor.

In Ecclesiasticum, lib. 1, Prout recitat beatus Augustin.

Lectionum Locos communes, lib. 1, Abyssus quid sit et evi compar.

Postillationes in Joannem, lib. 1, de Verbo specialiter est notandum.

Directorium earumdem, lib. 1, Abjicere temporalia quid sit.

Moralium Suorum Indices, lib. 1, abominatur Deus sex, scilicet.

Sermones de tempore, lib. 1, Exurget regere gentes Roma.

Sermones de Sanctis, lib. 1, Ego mater pulchræ dilectionis.

Quadragesimale quoque, lib. 1, Parce Domine populo tuo, etc.

Conciones ad Clerum, lib. 1, Benedicite Sacerdotes Domini. Ex Ridevallo in Fulgentium, lib. 1, Abrahæ par erat Conjugium.

Ex Trivetho de Transformatis, lib. 1, Abbas a monacho veneno.

De mirabilibus mundi, lib. 1, Lana terræ Abrahæ, quæ non.

Abbreviationes doctorum, lib. plures.†

Alani de Lynn, Carmelite.

De vario Scripturæ sensu, lib. 1, quia secundum apostulum, 2 Tim.

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* Bale, *Cent.* VI. 25. † *Id. Cent.* VI. 66.

Moralia Bibliorum, lib. 1, Perfidia abominabilem facit hominem.

Sermones notabiles, lib. 1, Venit ira Dei in filios diffident.

Elucidarium Scripturæ, lib. 1.

Prælectiones Theologicæ, lib. 1.

Elucidationes Aristotelis, lib. 1.

He also compiled Indexes or Tables to fifty or more books of divinity, history, &c., of which almost all were in this library.*

Nennii Bannochorensis Historiæ.†

Corrogationes Promethei.

Questiones naturales Abelardi per dialogos, ipso et nepote Interlocutoribus.

Euclides de oculo
Idem de visibus } uterque libellus sublatus.

Damascenus de vera Fide.

Suetonius de Cæsaribus.

Alredi Rievallensis Historiola.

Ricardus Medicus de Signis.

Aluredus de Motu Cordis.

Geometria Wiberti Pseudo-apostolica.

Rhetorica Aristotelis.

Aristoteles de Coloribus.

Terentius, vetus Codex.

Albrisius de Origine Deorum: furto sublatus.

Apuleius de Deo Socratis.‡

PRIORS OF THIS MONASTERY

Thomas de Salthous.— 8 Edward III.

William ..... —23 Edward III.§

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* Bale, *Cent.* VII. 54.

† *Id. Cent.* I. 74.

‡ Leland, *Coll.*, vol. III., p. 26.

§ *Rot. Cart.*

Walter de Dysse, A. D. 1376.
Robert Rose, D. D., obiit A. D. 1420.
Cyrillus Garoland.*
Thomas Watyrpett, D. D., A. D. 1486 and 1491.
Thomas ....., D. D., A. D. 1533.

These friars had a commodious malt-house, wherein not only their own malt was made, but sometimes malt for other people; as in the account of St. Giles' Hospital, in the twenty-third year of Henry the eighth,—"Paid to the Friars Carmelites, in Norwich, for making five quarters of barley into malt, two shillings and six-pence; and paid for the carriage of the five quarters of malt from the house of the said friars, in Norwich, to the said hospital, fourpence.†

A. D. 1538.—A little before the monasteries of friars were suppressed, a fellow, pretending to have a commission for that purpose, came to the prior with an intent to have cheated him of some money. Whereof I find noted, in the book of the courts of mayoralty of the city:—"At the court held on Saturday, the twelfth of October, in the thirtieth year of Henry the eighth, that one John Pratte, servant with Rauff Salter of Harpley, coming to Norwich, on Wednesday last, did, on the Fryday, go to the White Freres, and found the prior and his bretheren at dyner; and after the accustomed words of humanitie betwene the said pryor and the said John had, the prior demaunded from whence he came, whereunto the same John sayd, 'I am my Lord Privye Seallis' servaunt, and late come from his lordship.' And then the prior asked him the cause of his comyng, and he made answer,—'I have a commission from my Lord Privye Seal, to suppress this

* Mentioned by *Leland de Script. Brit.*, c. 584.
† *Comp. Hosp. S. Egid.*—23 Henry VIII.

house.' The prior desired the sight of his commission, and the said John sayd,—'That Master Godsalff had it;' and further sayd,—'that they should be dispatched of their house on Monday next, at the furthest.'—But it seems the prior, upon further examination, found him to be a cheat, and so caused him to be brought before the court, where he confessed that he did it, purposing to have put the prior of the same place in such fear, that he, by reason thereof, should give him a reward of forty shillings, or four pounds. But on Saturday, the nineteenth of October, according to sentence passed on him, he went about the market with a paper, containing—'For false feynyng to be the kynge's comyssioner.' And, after, both his ears were nailed to the pillory,*" &c.

A. D. 1542.—After the dissolution of monasteries, king Henry the eighth granted, among other things, the site of the monastery of white friars, in Norwich, to Richard Andrewes and Leonard Chamberlain, in fee, paying four shillings yearly, by his letters patent, of the seventeenth of June, in the thirtieth year of his reign.† Or, as in another account, to Richard Andrewes, to be held of the king in *capite* by knight's service; and that the same year, the said king granted licence to the said Richard Andrewes for alienating the premises to John Spenser and his heirs.‡

Whence, the fourth year of Elizabeth, we find that John Spenser held all the capital messuage and site of the Carmelites, in Norwich, of the said queen, in *capite*, by knight's service, and that Leonard Spenser was then his son and heir.§

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* *Lib. Cur.*—30 Henry VIII.

† *Pat.*—34 Henry VIII., pars, 4.

‡ *Pat.*—34 Henry VIII., pars, 4.

§ *Eschaet.* 4 Elizabeth.

But the year before, namely, the third of Elizabeth, Francis Southwell, esq., Thomas Spencer, and John Spencer, had the said queen's licence for alienating the premises to William Gilderne and his heirs. Dated the fifteenth of September, the third year of Elizabeth, namely, A. D. 1561.

And I find that the city had an intention of purchasing from him; for, at an assembly the eleventh year of Elizabeth, it was ordered, "That the four surveyors, appointed to talke with William Gilderne for the purchase of the Whighte Fryers, to the use of the cittie, should make their report."*

However, that was not done; but, in the twenty-second year of Elizabeth, the queen granted a licence of alienation to W. Gilderne, for conveying the same to William Drury of Melton, and his heirs,† in which family it continued many years; for, by an inquisition after the death of Sir William Drury of Besthorp, who died on the eighth of November, 1639, it was found that he died seized of the white friars' dissolved monastery, in this city.‡

But by a deed of a certain messuage, &c., parcel of the priory of the white friars, made A. D. 1653, it appears from the recitals, that "John Drury of Great Melton, gent., granted the said late priory, and all the church, steeple, and churchyard of the same house, and all other messuages, houses, yards, ponds, &c., in the circuit and precinct of it, together with all walls, &c., to Robert Drury of Rougham, in Norfolk, esq., who, on the twenty-sixth of October, in the twenty-fourth year of Elizabeth, demised the whole to Hamond Claxton of Norwich, esq., from Michaelmas foregoing, for one thousand years:" and that the same, by mean conveyance, came to the possession of Anthony Mingay of Norwich, gent., who,

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* *Lib. Cong.* 11 Elizabeth. † *Pat.*—22 Elizabeth, pars, 1.

‡ *Coll.* P. L. N. N.

in the tenth year of Charles the first, granted it to William Brereton the elder, for residue of the said term of one thousand years.—Perhaps some rent reserved out of it*.

Of late years, it was in the possession of Mr. John Chambers, some time one of the representatives in parliament for this city, and a captain of the militia, who built many new houses here next the street and round a square backward, in room of the old cloister which he pulled down: now it is in the possession of his son, Mr. *** Chambers. Several of the old buildings of the monastery still remain: particularly one in the midst, wherein the people of one sect of the Anabaptists have their place of meetings, and a burying-ground adjoining.

It seems, the parishioners of the parish of St. Martin of the Palace claimed some part of the site of this monastery, as part of their parish. For, at a court of mayoralty on the eighth of August, 1635, the differences between the parishioners of St. James' and St. Martin's at palace, touching the friars, was referred to the aldermen of the ward of Fibrigg and to Mr. Throkmorton, if in town.† —I find no more mention of the matter.

I have lastly to note that, in the thirty-sixth year of king Henry the eighth, John Eyre, one of the king's auditors (amongst other things) had a grant of a messuage in the parish of St. Clement in le Brice, before belonging to the priory of Horsham St. Faith's; and six messuages in the parish of St. Augustine, belonging to the Friars Carmelites, in Norwich.‡ Which messuages in St. Augustine's I suppose were so many tenements made out of the messuage bequeathed to these friars, A.D. 1529, by Margaret Beamond, as before-mentioned.

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* *Aut. nup. Cath. Brereton.* † See page 158.

‡ P.L.N.N. *Pat.*—36 Henry VIII., pars 26.

OF THE FRIARS OF ST. MARY.

There was moreover a house of friars in Norwich, who were called (*Fratres beatæ Mariæ*) or Friars of Blessed Mary, which was situated in the south side of St. Julian's churchyard in Conesford. And therefore, in the third year of Edward the first, they are mentioned by the name of (*Fratres beatæ Mariæ de Conesford*) the Friars of St. Mary in Conesford.*

The situation of their house appears evidently, from a deed enrolled in the guildhall of the city, in the nineteenth year of Edward the first, of a messuage in the parish of St. Clement in Conesford, lying between the messuage of William de Torp and the messuage sometime of Sir William de Rosnay towards the south, and the common lane which extendeth itself from Skeychegate, near the (*domicilium fratrum de domina*) the mansion of the friars of (our) lady unto the king's way of Conesford towards the north; the east head whereof abuts upon the said king's way, and the west head upon the king's way of Gosehil.†

A. D. 1290.—Roger de Tybenham, chaplain, bequeathed to the friars of Blessed Mary, two shillings, besides other legacies to the Carmelites, Preachers, Austins, and Minorite Friars.‡

They seem to have been suppressed, A. D. 1307, with the other petty orders of friars; for I find no further mention of them.

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* Inquisitiones fact. 3 Edward I., per preceptum Domini Regis in Com. Norff., &c.. de Juribus, &c., Regis subtract. et de excessibus vic. &c. —P. L. N. N.

† *Rot. Cartarum, &c.*, 19 E. fil. H.

‡ *Autograph, in Guildhall.*

OF THE FRIARS DE PICA.

In a list of untaxed churches, &c., in Norwich, added to the taxation of Bishop Walter de Suffeld, in an old transcript thereof, mention is made of the Friars de Pica, as follow, namely:—"S. Clementis, in Conesford.—S. Michaelis Fratres de Pica.—Placea ubi fuit aliquando Ecclesia S. Johannis Evangeliste: namely, in Taverna W. Sessuni." So that it seems there was some petty house of friars of that denomination, in Conesford-street, near the Austin Friars. But I find no more of them.*

PIES.—FRIARS PIES.

Some religious and monks are so called, who, like Pies, are clothed in white and black garments, (*una et simul*) at one and the same time.†

Thomas Walsingham‡ mentions a certain old church-yard, which some time belonged to the friars, which in old time were called "Freres Pies."§

In a manuscript cited by Mr. Hearne, in his Glossary to Robert of Gloucester, under the word *shenfullyche*, there is an account that Walter Stapleton, bishop of Exeter, who was beheaded A. D. 1327, was building a tower at London, without Temple-Bar, on the Thames side; and, lacking stone,—"He made his men to go to the churche of the Frerys, the which at that tyme were ycleped the Frerys of the Pye, and ther this bysshopys men pykhid stonys out of hurre lond, to perfourme his tower."

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* Quere.—If not the same with the *Fratres beate Marie.*

† *Glossar. Dufresne.*

‡ He lived A. D. 1440. § *Glossar. Dufresne.*

OF BENEFACTORS TO THE SEVERAL ORDERS OF FRIARS, BESIDES THOSE ALREADY MENTIONED.

A. D.

1247, John Bond of Norwich, bequeathed "to the Friars Minors of Norwich, four shillings. Item.—To the Friars Preachers, two shillings."* (No mention of the Austin or White Friars.)

1272, William de Dunwich, citizen of Norwich, bequeathed to the Friars Minors of Norwich, one mark: to the Friars Preachers of the same, one mark: to the Friars of Carmel of the same, one mark: and to the Friars de Sacco of the same, twenty shillings.†

1290, Roger de Tybenham, chaplain, bequeathed to the Friars Preachers, and Friars Minors, and Friars Carmelites, in Norwich, to each religion, four shillings. "Item.—To the Friars of St. Austin, and Friars of Blessed Mary, and Friars de (Sacco), to each religion, two shillings."‡

1385, Thomas de Bumpstede, C. N., bequeathed to the four orders of friars, in Norwich, twenty marks: namely, to each order, five marks.§

1418, William Appelyerd, C. N., to each order of the friars-mendicant, in Norwich, twenty shillings.¶

1428, William Setman, C. N. "Item.—To each house of the four orders of Mendicant Friars, in Norwich, three pounds six shillings and eight-pence.‖

1429, Sir Richard Carbonell, knight. "Item.—To the Austin Friars, in Norwich, twenty shillings. Item.—To the Jacobine Friars, twenty shillings. Item.—To the

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* *Autograph in Guildhall.*
† *Testm. Autograph in Guildhall.*
‡ *Autograph in Guildhall.*
§ *Reg. Harsike*, f. 56.
¶ *Ex Probat., in Guildhall.*
‖ *Reg. Surflet*, f. 124.

A. D.

Carmelite Friars, twenty shillings. Item.—To the Friars Minors, twenty shillings."*

1463, John Causton, *alias* Julians, C. N., grocer. "Item.—To the orders of the Dominicans, Minors, and Austins, to each order, forty shillings; namely, twenty shillings for repair of their houses, &c., and twenty shillings to be distributed among the friars: and to the order of the Carmelites, thirteen shillings and four-pence.†

1467, John Drolle, alderman. "Item.—I bequethe to the four orders of freris, twenty markes."‡

1473, Katherine Dylham, widow. "Item.—To every order of the mendicant friars, in Norwich, ten shillings: to be divided to each of the friars *juxta ratam, arvali porcione.*"§

1475, John Butte, alderman. "Item.—To each house of the Mendicant Friars, forty shillings."¶

1482, Thomas Storme, notary. "Item.—To iche hous of freres, in Norwich, twenty shillings."‖

1497, John Bysshoppe of Norwich. Item.—"To each house of the Mendicant Friars, twenty shillings."**

1509, Robert Barnard, squyer, buried at the Black Friars. "And to eueryche of the other three orders of freris, twenty shillings; and also to the house of the Gray Freris, a gown of tawny damaske to make a cheseble thereof."††

But before I leave the friars, I think it proper to give a further account of them, to show a little clearer what sort of men they were:—

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* *Reg. Surflet*, f. 67. † *Reg. Betyns*, f. 161. ‡ *Reg. Betyns*, f. 135.
§ *Reg. Gelour*, f. 55. ¶ *Reg. Gelour*, f. 107. ‖ *Reg. Castone*, f. 148.
** *Reg. Multon*, f. 81. †† *Reg. Johnson*, f. 111.

A. D. 1235.—Some of the friars minors, and some of the order of preachers, unmindful of their profession and order, did very impudently introduce themselves in a clandestine manner into the territories of some noble monasteries, under a pretext of performing their office, and, as it were, to depart again after their sermon the next day. But they, pretending either infirmity or something else, there remained; and, having built an altar of wood, and placed upon it a small consecrated altar-stone, which they brought with them, they celebrated masses with a low voice, received the confessions of many persons, even of parishioners, to the prejudice of the priests. For they said they had received such power from the lord pope; namely, that the (*fideles*) people, who were ashamed to confess to their own priest, or disdained to do it because he was under the same sin, or feared to do it because they should confess to a drunkard—to such the minors would enjoin penances,* and absolve them. In the mean time, having sent a speedy and diligent proctor to the Roman court, against the religious in whose territory they dwelt, they obtained the mansion, granted them with some additional benefit (*adjuncto beneficio.*) And if, by chance, they did not seem yet to be satisfied, they broke out into contumelious and threatening speeches, rejecting any other order beside their own, and asserting the rest to be of the number of those who should be damned, (*nec parcere callo plantarum suarum*) and gave their feet no rest till they had exhausted the treasures (though great) of their adversaries. Wherefore, the religious gave place to them in many things, to avoid scandal, and for fear of the great men; for they were the councillors and messengers of noblemen, also secretaries of the lord pope, procuring to

* Or they would enjoin less penances, &c.

themselves thereby too much favour of the people. Some of them, nevertheless, found opposers in the court of Rome, and, being restrained by plain reasons, departed confounded; the pope saying to them, with an angry countenance,—"What thing is this friars? Whither do you break forth? Have you not professed voluntary poverty? that, bare-footed and inglorious, travelling through towns and boroughs, and remote places, as occasion requires, you would humbly sow the word of God, and now ye presume to usurp mansions to yourselves, against the wills of the lords of the fees! Your religion seems now in great part to expire, and your doctrine to be refuted!" Hearing this, they departed, and began to behave themselves more modestly, who before had talked plentifully boasting of high things, &c.

But, A. D. 1243, a great controversy was agitated between the friars minors and the friars preachers, which moved many people to admiration, because they had seemed to have chosen the way of perfection, namely, of poverty and patience. But now they quarrelled about the greatest worthiness, most decent habit, the strictest and most humble and holiest life; for the preachers challenged a pre-eminence in all these; but the minors contradicted, and said it belonged to them: so that a great scandal arose from this discord. And because they were learned men, it was the more dangerous to the church; and what was looked on as a sorrowful presage, was that, in three or four hundred years or upwards, the monastical order had not made such a swift progress as the order of these friars, who, having scarce twenty-four years ago made their first houses in England, now their edifices are already risen to the grandeur of royal palaces. These are they, who, in sumptuous and daily amplified edifices and lofty walls, expose

to view inestimable treasures, impudently transgressing the limits of poverty and the fundamentals of their profession; who diligently apply themselves to lords and rich persons, to the injury and loss of the ordinaries, that they may gape after wealth; extorting confessions and clandestine wills, commending themselves and their order only, and extolling them above all others. So that no (*fidelis*) christian now believes he can be saved, unless he is governed by the councils of the preachers and minors. In obtaining of privileges, they are solicitors; in the courts of kings and potentates, they are councillors, gentlemen of the chamber, treasurers, bridesmen, (*nuptiarum præloquutores*) match-makers, matrimony-brokers; executioners they are of the papal extortions; in their sermons, either flatterers or stinging backbiters, or discoverers of confessions, or impudent rebukers. Contemning also the authentic orders constituted by the holy fathers, namely, Bennet and Austin, and their professions, they prefer their own order; the Cistercian monks they account to be simple fellows and semi-clerks, or rather rustics; but the black monks to be proud and epicures.

Moreover, about A. D. 1246, the friars preachers having obtained privileges from Pope Gregory the ninth and Pope Innocent the fourth, being rejoiced and magnified, they talked malapertly to several prelates of churches, bishops, and archdeacons, presiding in their synods, and where many persons of note, namely, deans, priests, and vicars, also rectors of churches with clerks, were assembled, showed openly the privileges indulged to them, proudly requiring that the same might be recited, and that they might be received with veneration in their churches. And, as legates, or even angels of God, they might be admitted to preach to the people, either in the synods or in parish churches, without any contradiction. And intruding them-

selves very impudently, they asked every person oftentimes, even the religious—"Are you confessed?" And if they were answered, "Yes," "By whom?" "By my priest." "And what idiot is he? He never heard divinity, never studied the decrees, never learned to resolve one question; they are blind and leaders of the blind; come to us, who know to distinguish one leprosy from another; to whom the difficult matters, to whom the secrets of God are manifest; confess to us without fear, to whom you see and hear now so great power is granted." Many therefore, especially (*nobiles*) of the gentlemen and their wives, despising their own priests and prelates, confessed to those preachers; whereby the dignity of the ordinaries was not a little debased, &c.

All this we have from Matthew Paris, a monk of St. Albans, who lived in the time of king Henry the third, and wrote a history of his reign.

In like manner the following epistle represents them, wherein the clergy complained of the friars preachers and minors, and prayed that their pride might be restrained. "With a lamentable complaint, we are obliged to (*explicare normam enormem*) lay open the disorderly order, introduced to our contempt and the general scandal of the clergy; by which, whilst the faith is believed to be increased, error arises, &c. For the friars preachers and minors have, in preaching, manifoldly depraved our life and conversation, &c.; and we are almost reduced to nothing. And we, who formerly, by reason of our office ruled over kings, &c., and corrected the people, now are become a reproach and derision, &c. The aforesaid friars have supplanted the clergy in all their dignities; and usurping to themselves penances and baptisms, and the anointing of the sick and churchyards, have restrained to themselves all the

power and authority of the clerical ministry. Now they have created two new fraternities, to which they have so generally received people of both sexes, that scarce one of either remains whose name is not written in one of them, who therefore all assembling in their churches, we cannot have our own parishioners, especially on solemn days, to be present at divine service, &c.; whence it is come to pass, that we, being deprived of the due tithes and oblations, cannot live, unless we should turn to some manual labour, &c. What else remaineth therefore? except that we should demolish our churches, in which nothing else remaineth for service or ornament but a bell and an old image covered with (*fuligine*) soot."

"Alas! many places, which formerly for the devotion (*fidelium*) of the people were famous for many miracles, now lie full of the household stuff of private persons; and the sacred altars, hitherto adorned with many ornaments, are now covered with scarce one plain linen cloth or ragged silk, &c. But these preachers and minors, who began from cells and cottages, have erected royal houses and palaces, supported on high pillars, and distinguished into various offices, the expences whereof ought to have been bestowed on the poor: these, whilst they have nothing, possess all things, &c.; but we, who are said to have something, are beggars. We therefore, lying at your majesty's feet, beseech that you will please to provide some remedy for the greatness of this devouring disease," &c.*

He that desireth to see more about these friars, may read the *Sompner's Tale* in Chaucer's Works, showing the cozenage, loitering, impudent begging, and hypocritical

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* Archbishop Usher, in his book, *De Christianarum Ecclesiarum Successione et Statu*, p. 157, *ex Petr. de Vineis*, lib. 1., epist. 27, *collat. cum MSS.*

praying of the mendicant friars. These mendicant friars were also used to steal children under fourteen years of age, or receive them into their houses in a clandestine manner, without the assent of their fathers, mothers, or other relations or guardians, and then refused to deliver them back to their friends again, when demanded, or embezzled or conveyed them away to other of their cloisters, where their friends could not find them. For prevention of which evil, a statute was made in the fourth year of Henry the fourth, by which the friars were subjected to be punished for such offences, according to the discretion of the Chancellor of England. And the provincials of the four orders were sworn before the parliament, for themselves and successors, to be obedient to the said statute.*

ST. PAUL'S HOSPITAL.

Now let us see what Hospitals are or were in Norwich, when founded, by whom, and how endowed, with other matters memorable concerning them. As for hospitals in general, we find them of ancient date in the world.—Spelman, in his *Glossary*, under the word "Ptochium," an hospital or house of beggars, quotes a letter which was written by Bassianus, a bishop, to the emperors Valentinian and Martian, about A. D. 450, namely,—"But I have lived from my youth with the poor, and (*Ptochium feci*) have erected an hospital, and placed in it seventy beds, and received (*hospitio*) in the house all sick and ulcerated persons." Thus he.—And because, (as far as I can find) the hospital of St. Paul was the first hospital in Norwich, I shall begin with an account of that, whereof we have an ample relation in the records of the cathedral church of Norwich,

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* *Statut.* 4 Henry IV., cap. 17.

particularly in the almoner's register, which saith,—"In the time of Eborard, bishop of Norwich, the hospital of of St. Paul in Norwich was founded by the prior and convent of the church of the Holy Trinity of Norwich, in the ground of the same prior and convent, which had been given them by Thurstan, son of Gwydo,* as appears by the following charter:—

"Be it known to all the faithful of Christ, present and to come, that the convent of the church of the Holy Trinity of Norwich hath given to their hospital that land in which the hospital is built, and their tithes of Marsham, and of Blicklyngges, and the land of Sprouston, and the land of the ditches which is between the wood (of Thorp) and the river. And it grants this quit and freed from all (*terreno servicio, alias censu*) secular service, (or rent) for the sustentation of poor people, for the soul of bishop Herbert, and for the soul of bishop Eborard, and for the health of all faithful people, living and dead. And, that this may be kept for ever, it hath confirmed the same by the seal of the Holy Trinity, and sign of the Holy Cross."†

ANOTHER CHARTER OF THE CONVENT.

"Be it known, &c., that all those who have received land in the croft of the hospital of St. Paul, to dwell there, by the grant of the chapter of the prior and monks of the church of the Holy Trinity of Norwich, may hold it, they and their heirs, by perpetual right, as long as they shall live (*legalitèr*) legally, and pay the (*censum*) rent of the ground to the (*procuratori*) bailiff or master of the hospital. These are their names, and this is the rent per annum: John, twelve-pence; Osbert, eighteen-pence; Walter the

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* See page 196. † *Reg.* 1, *Eccles. Cath. N.*, f. 25 and f. 239.

priest, eight-pence; Ranulf the cook, sixpence; Thorald the bishop's chaplain, six-pence; Aylward, four-pence; Ryngolph, ten-pence; Goceline the master, thirteen-pence; William the baker, eight-pence; Adulph, ten-pence; Goceline the carpenter, eight-pence; Anna, *alias* Unna, sixpence, and St. Paul is his heir; Wlueric, six-pence; Goffrid, eight-pence; Hugh, ten-pence; Walter, ten-pence; Lewyn, ten-pence; Wickeman, ten-pence. And that this constitution may remain sure and firm for ever, it is confirmed by all the monks of the Holy Trinity, by making the sign of the Holy Cross, and putting to it the seal of the Holy Trinity."*

OTHER CHARTERS.

"Be it known to all the faithful people of the Holy Church, as well present as to come, that I, Bartholomew, the son of Thurstan,† son of Gwydo, do grant and confirm all the donations which my father and my mother gave to the church of the Holy Trinity of Norwich, namely, the land and houses near the bridge of Fibrigg, and the land where the house of the hospital is situated, with all their appurtenances, and all other things in lands and meadows; and this quietly and freely for ever, without any claim, reclaim, exaction, and recognition of secular service. On this condition, that the monks of the Holy Trinity of Norwich may hold the same in their proper demesne, and not commit them to be possessed by any other person. This I have done by the grant of Maud my wife, and of Stephen my heir; and, that I might grant the same, I have received of the goods of the church a hundred shillings. These

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* *Reg.* 1, *Eccles. Cath. N.*, f. 25 and f. 239.

† Turstinus, filius Gwydonis, is mentioned in Doomsday Book, to have held land in Creak and Antingham.

things were done in the presence of the Lord William, the bishop: and witnesses thereof, are Daniel, abbot of St. Bennet; William and Roger and Walkeline, archdeacons; William de Hastynge; Ernald the chaplain; Adam de Calina; Turold the chaplain; Nicholas and Richard the bishop's clerks; Henry de Rya; Walter Haltein; Peter the bishop's constable; Roger the son of Seyce; William the priest of Fundenhale; Ranulph of Berchestrete; Blakeman de Hemesby."*

"Richard the archdeacon (namely, of the whole county of Suffolk) to his most dear, Robert the sheriff and the king's officers of Flegg, greeting and devout prayers. I have given of the alms which the grace of God and of our king gave me, the churches with their lands and the tithes of Ormesby, to the hospital of the poor of Norwich, for the health of the king and of his faithful people. Wherefore I request you, that you will cause Sir Norman the monk, master of the same house, to have this alms fully, as well of the increase of sheep as of the increase of the earth, that God may give you retribution for them."†

"Henry, king of England, to Eborard, by the grace of God bishop of Norwich, and to the sheriff, greeting. I grant my alms of Ormesby, at the request of Richard the archdeacon, to the hospital of Norwich, namely, the tithes of my hall, and of all lands to the demesne of the hall pertaining, and my churches, and the profits of the same, within the town and without the town of the same manor, and the tithe of sheep; and take ye care that no man do injury to the master of the hospital concerning any of these things. Witness, Geffrey the chancellor, at Westminster."‡

"To his venerable lord, Eborard, by the grace of God bishop of Norwich, and to all the convent of the church of

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* *Reg.* 1, *Eccles. Cath. N.*, f. 25. † *Id.* f. 239. ‡ *Id.* f. 54.

the Holy Trinity of Norwich, A. de Bellafago, greeting and due obedience. Be it known (*dilectioni vestræ*) to your benevolence, that I grant to the church of Norwich, for building the hospital of the same church and for the maintenance of the poor, my churches and tithes of Hormesby (or Ormesby), with the lands and all things which belong to them, as well and fully as Richard de Bellafago, bishop (*Abrivæ*) of Avranches, (in Normandy) had and granted (them) to it, and king Henry confirmed by his charters. And I command my clerks and the vicar of the same churches, that they pay to the master of the aforesaid hospital whatsoever they ought to pay, because I will not that his or our alms should in any manner be diminished or detained."*

"Eborard, by the grace of God bishop of Norwich, to his archdeacons, William, Roger, Walkeline, and William, and to Roger the dean, and to his parishioners of Norfolk and of Suffolk, greeting. Know ye that, by my command and assistance, the monks of the Holy Trinity of Norwich, in the free possession of the Holy Trinity, have built an hospital within Norwich, for the maintenance of the poor of God, for the health of my soul, and for the health of all the benefactors to that place, and a church of St. Paul, near the hospital, and whosoever (*requisierint*) shall visit the same church in (*festivitate*) the festival time of St. Paul in summer, (*per octo dies*) for eight days with oblations of alms, or a pious disposition of heart, I remit to them by the divine bounty, and by our authority, forty days of the penance enjoined them every year. But let no man offer any injury or reproach to the aforesaid hospital, or to the people inhabiting in the possession of it, or to their goods, upon pain, as violaters of the peace of

* *Reg.* 1, *Eccles. Cath. N.*, f. 26 and f. 239.

God and ours; but let them be free and quit for ever from all customs and plaints in God's peace and ours, as becomes the alms of God. And let all people dwelling in the said hospital, or in the possession of the hospital, hear the service of God in the aforesaid church of St. Paul, and securely praise the Lord, and pray for us and for all christians, living and dead. But the (*secretarius*) sacrist of the Holy Trinity shall give every year, for the use of the said church, chrism and holy oil. And, that this constitution may remain always stable and firm, I confirm and corroborate it by the impression of the Holy Cross, and affixing of my seal. Farewell."*

"To all Sons of Holy Mother Church, John, by the grace of God bishop of Norwich, greeting in the Lord. Know ye all, that we, with a view of divine piety, have given and granted, and by the present charter confirmed and assigned, to God and to the Holy Trinity of Norwich, the church of St. Margaret of Ormesby, with all things to it appertaining, to the use of the hospital of St. Paul in Norwich, for the maintenance of the poor in the same hospital languishing; saving to us and our successors for ever the pontifical and parochial right. But we have indulged that, when this church shall in any manner happen to be vacant, it may be lawful for the master of the hospital to enter the void possession of the said church, by this authority indulged them by us, these being witnesses:—Master William de Len; Master Robert de Gloucestre; Master Robert de Tywa; Alane de Gray; Alane de St. Edmund. Dated at Norwich, by the hands of Master Geffrey de Derham, eleventh kal. April, in the fifth year of our pontificate."†

Reg. 1, *Eccles. Cath. N.*, f. 26 and 239; *et Ex. Exemplif. Autogr. per Rog. Epm. Dat. apd. Thornheg.* 6 Non. Julii, A. D 1276.—A. E. N.

† *Reg.* I., f. 35, 237–240.

"In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Be it known to all the faithful of Christ, present and to come, that I, Morellus de Morlay, and Emma my wife, have entered into the fraternity of the monks of the Holy Trinity of Norwich; and the monks have granted to us, and to the souls of our parents, the benefits of the monks of the place, present, past, and to come. For which so great reward, we have given to the hospital of the Holy Trinity, for the maintenance of the poor for ever, two parts of our tithes of Filby, of corn and of all other things which ought to be tithed. We have also restored fully and freely to the monks of the Holy Trinity, the land which was in dispute (*calumnia*) in the same town, and these are witnesses:—William de Morlay, brother of Morellus; Osbern, an esquire of Morellus; Almerus and Godwine de Filby; William the Baron; Robert, the son of Godiva; Ralph, the son of William, a knight of Morellus."*

"Be it known to all the faithful of Christ, present and to come, that Ingulf the prior, with the good consent of the whole convent of Norwich, hath given to their hospital the half part of the tithe of Taverham for ever, for the maintenance of the poor there dwelling. And this for the honour of God, and for the health of the monks living and dead. Dated the tenth day of November, A. D. 1119."†

NOTE.—If this date be right, the hospital was founded or begun before Bishop Eborard's time. And it seems to be right; because, in another register, where copied, it concludes,—"Given by Ingulf, in the time of Herbert our founder, namely, in A. D. 1119."‡

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* *Reg.* 1, *Eccles. Cath. N.*, f. 240.

† *Id.* f. 138, *ad pedem paginæ, et recentiori manu, c. hac nota, viz., Require tertium locū antiq' Registri Magri d' Normans, in primo folio.*

‡ *MS. olim Prioratus Norwic, et* A. D. 1714, *in Manibus Edi: Thymelthorp, Gen.*—P. L. N. N.

"Walter, by the grace of God bishop of Norwich, &c. A contention having arisen between the prior and convent of Norwich, on the one part, and the rector and vicar of Marsham, on the other part, concerning two parts of the tithes arising of our demesne there, &c., we have thought fit thus to ordain by consent of the parties:—The vicar shall hold them as farmer, paying yearly as heretofore five shillings to the prior and convent, who deceasing, it shall be in their election how they will dispose of the said tithes. Dat. ann. tertio pontif."

"To all the faithful of Christ, Walter, bishop of Norwich, &c. We have granted and confirmed to the prior and convent of Norwich, and to the hospital of St. Paul, the third part of the tithes of our assurts of Thorp, which was given them by William de Raleye, our predecessor, of the present assurts, and of the assurts which shall be made in the same town for future. Witness Master William de Eiham; Laurence de Somertone; William de Wytewell, &c.—Dat. 6 kal. Martii, pontif. ann. tertio."

NOTE.—Bishop Roger confirmed the same.*

Juliana, the relict of Robert de Horkeneye de le Spitillond, granted to the brethren and sisters of St. Paul of Norwich, in free and perpetual alms for the maintenance of the poor, a piece of arable land lying at Guletre-hill, near Norwich, between the land of William le Waleys south, and the highway north; and one head abutting on the (land) of the said hospital east, and the other head on the highway west; paying yearly to the prior of Norwich one penny for all secular service. Witness William Grund, William le Waleys, &c.†

They had also the following general confirmations of all their possessions:—"Henry, by the grace of God

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* *Reg.* 1, *Eccles. Cath. N.*, f. 241. † *Id.* f. 252.

bishop of Winchester and legate of the apostolic see, to all the faithful and sons of Holy Mother Church, greeting, &c. By the authority of the apostolic see, we ratify and confirm that the hospital for the maintenance of the poor at Norwich, built in the possession of St. Paul, may remain under the apostolic tuition, saving the right of the church of Norwich, to whose demesne it is known to belong. Whatsoever things therefore are lawfully conferred on the said place, or for future shall happen to be, in churches, lands, tithes, or any other things whatsoever, we decree shall be entire, quit, and free from all exaction, to serve for the maintenance of the poor only. We have ordained that it may be lawful for no man rashly to disturb the same place, to diminish the goods thereof, &c., which, if any person shall knowingly presume to do, and being admonished a second or third time, if he shall not amend it by competent satisfaction (*renuisse de perpetrata iniquitate cognoscat*), let him know that he hath refused, and for the iniquity committed, that he be excluded from the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, and from all communion of Holy church, and in the last judgment be subjected to severe vengeance. But on all who shall be benefactors to the same place, be the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that here they may receive the fruit of their well-doing, and afterwards may find the rewards of eternal retribution."

NOTE.—This Henry was king Stephen's brother, and bishop from A. D. 1129 to A. D. 1171.

"Tedbald, by the grace of God archbishop of Canterbury and primate of all England, to Eborard, bishop of Norwich, and to all the sons of Holy church, greeting, and moreover his benediction. Be it known, as well to the present as future faithful people of Christ, that I,

Tedbald the archbishop, have dedicated the church of St. Paul, which belongs to the hospital of the poor at Norwich. Wherefore I confirm and command, that all things which pertain to the said church be free, under the peace of God and of the lord pope, and ours: especially in the churches of Ormesby, which Richard the archdeacon gave to it by consent of king Henry, and afterwards of king Stephen; and also in other things, in lands, in tithes, and in rents, and in all possessions which it hath or shall have of the gift of Christ and of his faithful. But whosoever shall benefit the same hospital, may he have the blessing of God, and of the lord pope, and ours. And, on the contrary, whosoever shall take away the things of the same house, or diminish them, let him be subject to anathema, except he shall come to amends and satisfaction. Be it so! Be it so! Amen.†"

"And, in the anniversary of the dedication of the same (*Basilica*) church of St. Paul, I make a pardon, by releasing eight days of penance every year."*

NOTE.—The said Tedbald, or Theobald, was archbishop from A D. 1138 to A. D. 1160; and his charter was recited by Ralph, bishop of Norwich, in a charter, dated 6 idus Martii, pontif. anno quarto.

The following charter gives a large account of the possessions of the said hospital:—"To all the faithful of Christ to whom the present writing shall come, John, by the grace of God bishop of Norwich, greeting in the Lord. The things which have been granted and bestowed (*in pias causas*) for pious uses by the faithful of God, that they may remain firm and unshaken for those uses to which they were assigned, it is requisite they should be fortified by the protection of the episcopal authority. Wherefore,

* *Reg.* 1, *Eccles. Cath. N.*, f. 240.

we will that it come to the knowledge of all, that we, for the sake of God (*et pietatis intuitu*) with a pious intention, have canonically confirmed to God, and to the hospital of St. Paul of (*al. in*) Norwich, all the churches and tithes underwritten, with all things to them belonging, to their own proper uses, to serve for the maintenance of the poor in the same hospital languishing, for ever; namely, the church of St. Paul in Norwich; in the town of Ormesby, the churches of St. Michael, and St. Peter, and St. Andrew, and St. Margaret; and all the tithes of the hall of Ormesby, and of all lands belonging to the demesne of the same hall, and of the sheep of the same hall, of the gift of the illustrious kings, Henry the first and Henry the second. Moreover, the third part of the tithe of the demesnes of our manors of Blofield,* of Thorp, of Thornedis, of Langham, with their appurtenances. And two parts of the tithe of our demesne of Marsham, and the third part of the tithe of the demesne of Blicklyng, and the half of all the tithes of the demesne of the prior of Norwich in Thaverham, and of the demesne of the monks of Norwich in Neutone, and two parts of the tithe of the demesne of Robert d' Ulmo, de Filby. Saving in all things the reverence and honour and due customs of the holy church of Norwich, and a competent maintenance for the vicars who minister in those churches. And, that this confirmation may remain firm and unviolated, we corroborate it by this present writing and the attestation of our seal. Witnesses Thomas (and) Geffrey the Archdeacons, Thomas the Briton, Master Walter de Calna, Robert de Chippeham, M. Gervase. Dated at Norwich, A. D. 1198, eight idus Augusti."†

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* In the charter of Bishop Thomas, and confirmation of it by Bishop Walter, of "Beketon, or Begeton," is here inserted.

† Bale, f. 31.

What the master of the hospital received from some of these tithes, &c., appears from the following notes:—

	Certe terre in Thorp.	Porcio in Merstone.	Porcio in Langham.	Decim. de Neutone.	Decim. de Taverham.	Decim. de Giddinghethe, *al.* Gydingheye
Tempore Johis. secundi Episcopi Norw. Eccles. S. Andreæ de Langham concess. fuit R. Clerico dur. vita.—*Reg.* 5, E.N. f. 8.....	.....	.....	Cellarer. E. Norwic. 20*s.* ℔ annum, et Custodi Hosp. 20*s.* ℔ annum	.....	.....	.....
Comp. Camere, R. de Langele Prioris. Anno 5° solut. Magistro Hospitalis	.....	.....	.....	Pro Dec. de D. Prior 54*s.*	.....	5*s.* 8*d.*
Anno 8, W. de Claxton Magistro Hospitalis Norman	.....	.....	.....	54*s.*	13*s.* 4*d.*	10*s.* 8*d.*
Anno 9.	.....	.....	.....	*sic*	*sic*	6*s.* 8*d.*
Anno 10.	.....	.....	.....	*sic*	*sic*	9*s.* 4*d.*
Comp. Magistri Celerarii, 4 Henry IV. Solut. Magistr. Hospitalis St. Pauli.	.....	.....	.....	*sic*	*sic*	.....
N. B.—31 Henry VI. idem.	.....	.....	.....	.....	et 17 H. 7, *sic*	.....
Comp. Celerarii, 11 Henry IV. Solut. dict. Magistro.	20*d.*	.....	.....	.. ..	.....	.....
Comp. Celerarii, 11 Henry VI. Recept de Thornage.	20*s.*	17*s.* 10*d.* et in plus quia Magister de Normans habet tertian partem ibidem.	17*s.* 10*d.*	.....	.....	.....

Tax. Walter de Suffield, Epo. N. Phileby, Hospitali Normanni de Norwico, de Dominico, fifteen shillings.

Aliter Tax. Lincoln Porcio Hospitali Norm. fifteen shillings. (As if tithes.)

Magister de Normannis percipiet de Reditu Domini Fratris William Elmham in infer. Conesforth, four shillings.*

The ground of the whole old parish of St. Paul was held of it; and many houses in other parts of the city paid rents, &c.

NOTE.—This charter was confirmed by bishop Roger; and a like charter is recorded of bishop Thomas, which charter has for witnesses, Mr. Alan, archdeacon of Sudbury; Mr. Robert de Bilney; John Tunni; Henry the chaplain; Richard de Guitone, clerk; Henry de Tunstal, clerk; and Adam de Birlingham. Dated at Thorp, 4 kalend. March, A. D. 1226;† and confirmed by bishop Walter.‡

Also, John of Ely, bishop of Norwich, in a charter of *Inspeximus*, recited and confirmed all the principal charters of this hospital, twenty in number, which is dated 16 kal. April, A. D. 1301, pontif. anno tertio. §

We also find‖ that Pope Alexander the third, by his bull of 15 kal. October, A. D. 1176, confirmed to the bishop of Norwich, &c. the hospital of the poor in Norwich, with the church of St. Paul, in the croft of the same hospital.

And a bull of Pope Gregory the tenth, of 14 kal. June, A. D. 1273, wherein is confirmed to the prior of Norwich, &c. the hospital of St. Paul de Norman.

And in the Cottonian library,¶ a bull of Pope Gregory, confirming to the master and brethren of the hospital of St. Paul of Norwich, of the order of St. Bennet, belonging

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* *Reg.* 1, *E. Cath.* † P.L.N.N. ‡ *Reg.* 1, *E. Cath.* f. 240 et 241.

§ Recorded in said Reg. from f. 239 to f. 242.

‖ By the same Register. ¶ Julius, F. 7, f. 13-22.

to the church of Norwich, the liberties and immunities which had been granted them by former popes; and the exemptions from secular exactions which had been granted them by kings, princes, &c., with the clauses "Nulli ergo," &c., and "Si quis autem," &c. Dat. apud (Urbem) veterem 2 Non. Febr. pontif. anno ***.

Several royal charters were also granted to the said hospital, namely, by king Henry the first,—

I.—"Henry, king of England, to his justices, R. Basset and Abraham de Ver, and his burgesses of Norwich and ministers of Norfolc and Suthfolc, greeting. Know ye that I have given and granted to the hospital of the poor of St. Paul of Norwich, for the health of my soul, and for the health of my parents, (*liberationem*) the allowance which Odlent was used to have, namely, three-pence per diem; and the sheriff of Norfolc shall give it out of his farm. Witnesses, William de Waren; Hugh Bigot; Roger de Fisc; R. de Ver; and Abraham de Ver, at Westminster." Hence it was that, in the sheriff's old accounts, at the Exchequer, we find four pounds eleven shillings and three-pence allowed yearly to them in manner following: as for instance—"The thirtieth year of Henry the second, Wimarus the chaplain renders an account of the farm of Nordfolch and Sudfolch, in the treasury, four hundred and forty nine pounds thirteen shillings and eleven-pence blank; and in alms appointed to the knights of the temple, forty shillings; and to the brethren of the hospital of Norwich, four pounds eleven shillings and three-pence, &c.;"* which is what the three-pence per diem amounts to for a year.

Note.—This payment continued to be made to the said hospital by the sheriff of Norfolk till the Reformation.

* *Madox Exch.* p. 215, *ex Mag. Rot.* 30 Henry II. *Rot.*1, 4 *Norff et Suff.*

—I have seen the receipt for the said four pounds eleven shillings and three-pence, which John Wickys from Mr. * * * gave Miles Stapulton, sheriff of Norfolk, dated the first of October, the nineteenth year of Henry the sixth, A. D. 1440, penes T. Martin, attorney.

II. "Henry, king of England, to Eborard, bishop of Norwich, and to his justices of Norfolk and burgesses of Norwich, greeting. Know ye, that I have given and granted, for the health of my soul, to the hospital of the poor of St. Paul of Norwich, the tithe of my hall of Ormesby and of all the lands pertaining to the demesne of the same hall, and the tithe of my sheep; and my churches of the same town, and (*beneficia*) the profits of them. Also, let the aforesaid hospital, and all the inhabitants in the croft thereof, be free and quit from all scots, gelds, and landgable, and all other customs. I command also, that all things which belong to that hospital may have my firm peace, with soc, and sac, and tol, and them, and infangenethef. Witnesses, the bishop of Norwich, and Richard Basset and Abraham de Ver at London."

III. King Stephen, by his charter beginning as follows, confirmed to the same hospital the three-pence per diem and tithe of Ormesby, &c., as before-mentioned. "Stephen, by the grace of God, king of England, to the bishop of Norwich, and to his justices, sheriffs, barons, ministers, and all his faithful people, French and English, of Norfolk, and to the burgesses of Norwich, greeting. Know ye, that I have granted for the soul of Henry my uncle, for the health of myself and of Maud the queen my wife, and of Eustace my son," &c.

King John granted the following charter:—

IV. "John, by the grace of God, king of England, lord of Ireland, duke of Normandy and Aquitaine, and

earl of Anjou, to his beloved and faithful, the justices, sheriffs, stewards, and to all his bailiffs to whom the present writing shall come, greeting. Know ye, that I have granted and confirmed to God, and to the hospital of St. Paul of Norwich, and to the men residing in the land thereof, the rents, possessions, churches, and liberties, which they have by the charters of king Henry our father and of king Henry the grandfather of our father. And therefore I command you that you do not permit the bailiffs of Norwich, or the men of Norwich, or any others whomsoever, to disturb the tenants of the said hospital in the market of Norwich, nor in any other place whatsoever; nor to exact any thing from them contrary to the liberties of their aforesaid charters, upon (penalty of) our forfeiture. Witness myself *apud Lamusam* (*alias* La Susam) the fourth day of September, &c."*

Note.—The second and fourth of the said charters were confirmed by the charters of *Inspeximus* of king Henry the third; witnesses, I. of Bath; R. of Durham; W. of Exeter; W. of Carlisle; and H. of Rochester; bishops: H. de Burgo, earl of Kent, justice of England; Stephen de Segrave; Ralph, the son of Nicholas; Godfrey de Craucumb; John, the son of Philip; Geffrey le Dispencer; Richard, the son of Hugh; and others. Given by the hand of the reverend father, R. bishop of Chichester, his chancellor, at Westminster, the seventh of May, in the sixteenth year of his reign.

And the same charters of *Inspeximus*, and the first charter, were confirmed by the charter of *Inspeximus* of king Edward the first. Witnesses, the reverend fathers, W. of Coventry and Lichfield, and I. of Carlisle, bishops; Henry de Lacy, earl of Lincoln, &c. Given by his own

* Bale, 54, 55, and 59.

hand at Laurecost, the fifth of October, in the thirty-fourth year of his reign.*

In process of time, the use of this hospital was changed from a place of nursing and taking care of sick people; and the monk who was master of it received the profits of the court and other revenues, and repaired the houses where the said women dwelt; some styled sisters, and others half-sisters, who, it seems, took care of an apartment in it, called an alms-house, to entertain a few poor travellers for a night when they came; for which purpose there were a few beds: one of these women was called the "Guardiana" or Governess. And these women seem to have subsisted on alms given, as well as from the revenues of the hospital, of which they had yearly pensions. Their places were purchased for ten marks each or more, as appears by the *Visitation Book*, A. D. 1492. They had sisters there as well as brethren; and, lastly, sisters and half-sisters, and no brethren. Take a few notes of benefactors (though petty ones) for illustration of this matter.

A. D.

1372, William de Pulham, mercer, citizen of Norwich, bequeathed to the poor sisters in the hospital of St. Paul, five shillings.

1373, William Plomer—"To the sisters of Norman spitel and to the repair of St. Paul's church, ten shillings."†

1381, Isabell de Brook—"To the whole sisters of the hospital of St. Paul of Norman spitel, two shillings, and to the half-sisters of the same hospital, twelvepence."

1418, William Appelyard, C.N.—"To the sisters of St. Paul's hospital, twenty shillings."‡

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* *Lib. Cartar. et Placitor, in Guildhall, et Reg.* 3, *E. Cath. N.* f. 94, 95.

† *Reg. Haydon.* ‡ *Ex Probat. in Guildhall.*

A. D.
1430, I find the cells of the sisters of Normans were repaired in carpenter's work.*

1435, Thomas Basset, a hermit of St. Stephen's parish.—"To the women in the Normannys, in St. Paul's hospital, called half-systerys, twelve-pence."†

1437, ... "To every sister in Normannys spetell, four-pence; and to every one in the same hospital, four-pence."‡

1482, John Howard, carpenter.—"To the almes-howse of the Normans, three coverlites."§

1492, Joane Harneys, widow.—"To iche syster of the Normans, one penny. Item.—To the repair of the pore mennys beddys ther, four-pence."¶

1493, John Casten, alderman.—"To the guardyan at Normans hospitalle, eight-pence; and to iche her suster ther, four-pence."‖

1494, Sir William Calthorp.—"To the sisters of Normans, thirteen shillings and four-pence."**

1501, Joane Williamson, widow.—"To the sisters of Normans hospital, three shillings and four-pence. Item.—To ther armesse-house, a bedde, that is, a mattras, a coverlyght, and a peyer of shettys."††

1502, Dame Joane Blakeney, widow.—"To the fourteen susters of Normans, five shillings and ten-pence; namely, to iche hoolle-suster four-pence, and iche half-suster, six-pence."‡‡

1505, Thomas Richeman, citizen of Norwich, gave "a paire of shetes, to serve and to be occupied at Normans among the poore people in the poore-house ther."§§

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* Recept. pro opere Walteri Carpentarii nostri, super domum Latrinar. et Cellas Soror. de Normans, fifteen shillings.—*Comp. Magistri Celar.*, 8 Henry VI., (1430.)

† *Reg. Surflet*, f. 169. ‡ *Reg. Doke*, f. 37. § *Reg. Caston*, f. 151.
¶ *Reg. Wolman*, f. 150. ‖ *Reg. Wolman*, f. 185. ** P. L. N. N.
†† *Reg. Popye*, f. 229. ‡‡ *Reg. Popye*, f. 315. §§ *Reg. Rix*, f. 270.

A. D.
1507, Thomas Wymer of Aylsham.* "Item.—To both the houses of sisters of Normans, in Norwich, three shillings and four-pence."

Hence it appears there was one house for the whole sisters, and another for the half sisters.

1515, John Harmer, tailor.—"To the sustern at Normans, bothe hoolle-suster and halff-suster, two-pence."†

1516, William Elsey.—"I geve to bye with lynen clothe for the Goddis-hous at Normans, for shetyng, six shillings and eight-pence."‡

1517, Dame Margery Hobert.—"To the systrys off Normans yn Norwiche, forty shillings."§

1534, Twelve sisters are mentioned to belong to the Normans at this time.¶

1562, (4 Eliz.) John Cooke, C. N. (worstead weaver.) "To the sisters in the Normans, towards the relief of the poore that shall resorte thether, five shillings."‖

MASTERS OR WARDENS OF THE SAID HOSPITAL.
(MAGISTRI SIVE CUSTODES.)

"The master of the hospital of St. Paul of Normannes, one of the monks of the cathedral church, shall be preferred and removed (as also the sub-prior, precentor, cellarer, sacrist, chamberlain, priors of the cells of Lenn, Jernemuth, Aldeby, and Hoxne) by the prior and seniors of the said church for the time being, or the major part of them; namely, prior, sub-prior, cellarer, precentor, chamberlain, sacrist, and the four penitentiaries, the almoner, master of the infirmary, and master of the cellar, if so many and such of the said officers shall be in number: if not, the

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* His brass is in Aylsham church, where he made the screen.

† *Reg. Archid. N.* ‡ *Reg. Briggs*, f. 19. § *Id.*

¶ *Reg. Archid. N.* ‖ *Reg. Archid. N.*

major part of them shall make a chapter in this behalf; and such preferment or removal shall (being first notified to him) be confirmed by the bishop.

"Moreover, concerning the ordinary visitation of the said hospital, it is appointed and agreed that the bishop of Norwich, for the time being, may exercise his ordinary visitation, and make correction and reformation of the crimes and excesses of the brethren and sisters, and others there dwelling, detected in the visitation, and punish those detected. And that the master of the same hospital for the time being, shall be bound to execute and certify the bishop's mandate for making the visitation; and also to submit to the visitation, correction and reformation, as far as touches the administration of the same hospital. Item.—The master of the said hospital for the time being, shall have for time to come the insinuations and approbations of the testaments of what persons soever deceasing within the jurisdiction of the said hospital throughout the whole parish of St. Paul, as well of chaplains, as of other clerks in holy orders, and laicks of either sex, departing this life within the said hospital of St. Paul of Normannes, or the jurisdiction of the same; and all other ecclesiastical jurisdiction of all the inhabitants in the said hospital and parish for ever. Because that, from the foundation of the said hospital, the jurisdiction as aforesaid hath been exercised and used by the master of the said hospital for the time being, from time to time (the times of the ordinary visitation of the bishops of Norwich for the time being excepted.)*

Norman, the monk, mentioned in a preceding charter of Henry the first's time, to be the procurator of the

* Ex Compositione factâ inter T. Brown Epm. Norwic, et Johem Priorem E. Cath. S. Trin. Norwic. ac Capitulum ejusd. Ex Autogr. Dat. apud Southelmham, 28 Aug., A. D. 1444, pen. P.L.N.N.

hospital then, was, as I take it, the first master, and might continue so many years, whence this hospital might have its name of Norman's Spitel.

Galfridus, magr. temp. Ric. I.*

Regin. de Pankesford, procurator, temp. Hen. III., *ut videtur.*†

51 Henry III.—Robert de Stokesby was master.

14 Edward I.—Frater Joh. de Plumystede, quondam magister.

A. D. 1357.—Frater Nicholas de Jernemuta.

A. D. 1370. (44 Edw. III.)—Frater Radulphus de Filby.

A. D. 1398.—Frater Thomas Lynne.

For, in the decree of the archbishop of Canterbury, and other arbitrators of the differences between the bishop and the monks of Norwich, made on the eighteenth of March, 1398, one point of difference was concerning the absolution of Frater Thomas Lynne, master of the hospital of St. Paul of Norman, and about the visitation and correction of the defects, &c., of the brethren and sisters of the said hospital.

A. D.

1411, (11 Hen. IV.) Frater John de Hasingham.

1429, Frater Richard Walsham, monk, master.‡

1440, (19 Hen. VI.) Frater John Wichyngham, magister sive custos.

1470, (*circa*) Frater Robert Bretenham.

1491, (7 Hen. VII.) Frater Dionitius Hyndolvestone, and A. D. 1492.

1504, (20 Hen. VII.) Dominus ..... Castellyn.

1514, Dns. Johs. Siblys, nuper magister.

1532, Dns. Henry Mannell, magister Normannorum.

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* Plac. in Com. Norf. 14 Edward I., *quo. war.* † *Cart. Autogr., A. E. N.*

‡ *Lib. Inst.* IX., 33.

AND AS FOR THE GOVERNESSES,

I find that, A. D. 1452, Robert Blyklyng, of Norwich, esq., bequeathed to the Lady Cecily Mortymer, (*gardiane*) wardeness of the Normannys, forty-pence.*

Another such is referred to before, among benefactors, A. D. 1443: this, by the visitation-book of that year, was Dame Mary Green; then there were, besides her, seven whole and seven half sisters.

Dame Maud Puregold, guardian of the sisters of Normans, A. D. 1513.

Margaret Dyne is so styled in the visitation, A. D. 1532, when there appeared but nine sisters besides her.†

Mystres Agnes Lyon was the last governess.

The senior sister seems to have been the *guardiana*.‡

I shall now add what is noted in the Lincoln Taxation (made in Edward the first's time) concerning this hospital, namely,—

"The church of St. Paul, with the hospital, which is called Normannes petel, al. *Normanys pytelle.* Tax of the spirituals. Estimation of the same church, thirty-three shillings and four-pence, whence the tenth is three shillings and four-pence. It is an exempt place, wherein are brethren and sisters. It is not visited by the archdeacon, nor does the church pay synodals; and all the corrections of the parishioners of the said church of St. Paul, and of all and singular other persons offending within the said parish, do belong to the master of the said hospital." §

And the following bequest of an honest old priest must not be omitted:—

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* *Reg. Aleyn*, f. 230. † *Coll. D. Tanner, Canc.* ‡ *D. Tanner, Canc.*
§ *Liber Doomsd. E. Cath. N., et Liber Archid. Norwic.*

"The trewe copie of the woordes conteynge the last wylle and testament of Sir Thomas Salter, a preste of London, concernynge a bequest geven to the poore housse of the Normans, A. D. 1558.

"Moreover, oute of the sayde two hundreth markes, I wil that the said wardeyns and companie of the salters of London do delyver, or cause to be delywerde (yerely and) perpetuallye, upon newe yere's even's even, to the church-warden of St. Pawle's churche within the cittie of Norwich, in the cowntie of Norfolk, fyftye and twoo shillynges of goode and lawefull monye of Englande. To be geven in awllmes everye Sondaye in the yere, as it here followeth and showeth: that is to saye, every Sondaye throughoute the yere, as soone as high masse is done in the sayde paryshe churche of St. Pawle, I wylle that the churchwardens of the said church shal geve twenty-four halfe-penye whaten breade loves, that were newe baken on the Satherdaye nexte before, unto twenty-four poore systers of Vincente Norman, whiche he buylded a howse for systers* in the said parrishe many yeres agoe. And yf ther be not twenty-four systers in the same howse at this present daye, to receyve and have the said awllmes of bread, everie Sondaye in the yere, that is to wete, everie one of them a halfe-penye wheaten loffe new bake; then so manie good systers as be or shal be hereafter, I wylle that they be fyrste served everie one the Sondays of the said half-penie breade; and the resydue of the sayde halfe-penye breade that is leafte or ongeven, I wylle that that be given to the pore laye men and women in the sayde paryshe of St. Powle. But in no wyse to geve my sayde awllmes to suche laye people as be abhominable swearers, or adulterers, or detracters, or sclanderers of ther even chrysten; for God

* Here he was mistaken.

heareth not the praier of no suche wicked people, but he heareth the prayers of alle good and faythfull chrysten people, and suche as loveth hym, and feareth and dreadeth hym, and kepeth his commaundements. Owr Lord God geve us alle grace lykewise to do the same.

"This forsayde perpetualle aullmes I have founded it and wylled to be geven (speciallie) to the sayde pore systers, bycause I have a great truste that they wylle praye for me; and also, bycause that a verie good devowte syster of the said howse of Vincent Norman, was the fyrst creature that tawght me to knowe the lettres in my booke—Dame Katherin Peckham was her name;* I was skoller seventy-two yeres ago (with her) in the sayde parrysh of St. Powle. I beseche Jhesu to haue mercye on her sowle.

"Nowe, forasmuch as the saide churchwardens do take the laboure and paynes to destrybute and geve the saide twelve-penyworth of breade everi Sondaye in the yere, I do geve to them the twoo vauntage halfe-penie wheate-breade loves, that they have brought them by the baker everi Satherday, with the said twelve-pennyworth of breade. Which sayde breade I wolde it shulde be brought into St. Powle's churche, either upon the Satherday befor even-songe, or ellis upon the Sondaye before mattins, and to be putt in a great closse basket, that no myce nor rattes do come to it. And I desyre my sayde good masters (the salters) to geve or sende twelve-pence to the saide churchwardens, to prepare and to paie for suche a baskett for the said breade. And yf yt so be that the said churchwardens wylle not take the labowre and payne to dystrybute and geve the said twenty-four loves of wheaten breade to the said systers and pore laye people,

* Katerine Bekham was the next senior sister to Margaret Dyver, guardian, 1532.—*Visit.*

then lett the parrysh clerke of the said St. Powle's churche geve the said breade everie Sondaye in the yere unto them; and for so doenge then I give to the saide clerk the twoo said vauntage half-peny wheaten loves, everie Sondaye through the yere for his laboure. And yf that my masters, the wardens of the Salters' Companie, can here and perfectly knowe that the saide aullmes is not geven to the said systers and pore laye people everie Sondaye, either in breade or ellis in monie for scarcenes of breade, then I wylle that the sayde awllmes of breade be taken awaye from them, and to geve it to ther owne awllmes men in London for ever, (to whom I have also geven twelve-pence everie weke perpetually.)"

MEMORANDUM.—"Whereas the said Thomas Salter (by his testament and last will, bearinge date the last day of August, A. D. 1558,) hath willed that the wardens and companie of salters of London, in consideration of two hundred marks to them geven by the said testament, shall delyver yerely and perpetuallye upon new yere's even's even to the churchewardens of St. Powlis paryshe in Norwich fifty-two shillings, to be geven in awllmes, &c.; notwithstandinge, afterwarde, the eighth day of October, in the yere above-said, his wylle and mynde was that ther shulde be geven and delyverd but th'one halfe therof, that is to saye, twenty-six shillings and no more. And th'other halffe to be to the said companie of salters, in consideration of suche paiements as he hathe appoynted them to paye, by reason of the said two hundred marks."*

Afterwards, this hospital came into the hands of the city; for, A. D. 1565, the twenty-first of September, in the seventh year of queen Elizabeth, the dean and chapter of Norwich granted "to the mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and

* Book of Orders for the Poor and Bridewell in Guildhall.

commonalty of the same city, for five hundred years, at the rent of one penny per annum, all those their chambers, lodgengs, howses, buyldyngs, gardyns, and yardes of the hospitall of St. Paulle, commonly called the Normans, situate and beeyng in the paryshe of St. Paull in Norwich, as they lately were in the hands and rule, government and custody of one Mystres Agnes Lyon, now departed, sometyme a syster of the same hows or hospytalle, and hertofore used for the comforte, relief, and lodgengs of pore straungers, vagrantes, sick and impotent persons, together with alle that, the bedsteads, beddyng, clothyng, and stuff belonging to the sayd deane and chapter, with the saide hows or hospital, as they late were in the custody of the sayd Mrs. Agnes Lyon; (except suche howses and grownds as were in the ferme of John Katryngham, and now in the ferme and occupacion of William Blenerhasset, gentleman, and parcel of the said hospytall;) to have and to hold, &c. as above, and not to be chaunged from awllmes-howses and lodgings for, &c.; with licence reserved for the deane and two prebendaries, once a year, to vysit the same and see whether it be mayntaind for the relief of pore straungers, &c."*

This place (now called the Systers of Normans) was the same year† appointed to be a workhouse and house of correction for such poor people who were able to work and yet would not work for a living, which was confirmed by assembly, A. D. 1571. "But, reserving allweyes that howse within the Normans, and the six beddes thereunto belonging, which hathe bene of long tyme usyd for the lodging of poore Ynglysshe straungers and wayfaring men and women; and reserving also the nether howse and chamber at the gate, wherein the wyddow now dwellyth, that receyveth the poore to lodging, washyth theyr clothes,

* C. L. A., f. 102. † MS. Themilthorp.

and preparyth their beddes; to those charytable usys styll to be employed."*

This hospital was thereupon called Bridewell; and the reason why this, and in general all such other houses of work and correction in other cities and towns have that name, was (as I take it) from a house, sometime a palace, called Bridewell, in the parish of St. Bride or Bridget, in London, which king Edward the sixth gave to that city, to be a work-house for the poor and idle persons of that city.†

LEGACIES AND GIFTS TO THE BRIDEWELL AT NORMANS.

A. D.

..... Mr. Henry Bacon, alderman, gave three pounds six shillings and eight-pence, which was paid A. D. 1568.

..... And Mr. Nicholas Norgate, alderman, by last will, dated December, 1568, willed that "his wife should yearly bestow four pounds in the poor hows called the Normans, by the discrecion of the mayor, &c., during her life:" twelve pounds were paid on this bequest.

1571, "Mr. Thomas Grene, mayor, an obligation of ten pounds, given by Sir Richard Sothwell to the use of the poor."

1573, John Husbond of Mulkebarton, gave to this house six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence.

..... Alice Bacon, widow of Henry Bacon, alderman, bequeathed to the house of the Normans, three pounds six shillings and eight-pence, which was paid A. D. 1574.

Several other small legacies appear in the accounts of bridewell, which begin A. D. 1565.

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* Book of Orders aforesaid.—See those Orders under said year, 1571.

† *Stow's Survey, Lond.*

What rooms or apartments were in this house, A. D. 1578, appears from the following note; and also what the value of the stock and goods therein was at that time:—

"A remembraunce of the rest of the stocke of wooll remaining to the housse of brydwell, which Nicholas Sotherton left at his departure from thence, 1578; *scil.* sixty-three stone of wooll, valued at twenty-five pounds four shillings and ten-pence.

"Moreover, a stocke of housshold goods and implements remaining, belonging to the said house, in the following rooms, namely,—The white chamber, the half-mone chamber, the star chamber, the flower-de-lusse chamber, the rose chamber, the correction housse, the working chamber, the maids' chamber, the keeper's chamber, the kytchyn, the mylle house, the yard, the south chamber, the myll chamber, the gate-house, the porter's lodge, the nether aulms-house, the upper aulms-houses, Mother Bower's chamber, &c.: value forty-eight pounds eight shillings and four-pence.*

Afterwards, the city had some trouble concerning the premises, and also the free-school, on occasion of a fraudulent conveyance of them, made by the dean and chapter, as follows; which however were upon arbitration decreed to the city, as of right they ought. This appears from the following extracts of the instruments, namely:—

"This indenture, made the twentieth of June, in the the twenty-third year of Elizabeth, between Richard Conengesby of Ruscombe in the county of Berks and Nicholas Brooke of Waltham Holy Crosse in the county of Essex, esq., of the one partty, and John Bayt (*alias* Bate) of Byrlyngham St. Peter in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, of the other partty. Whereas, George

* Book of Bridewell.

Gardyner, doctor of dyvynyty, dean of the cathedral church of the Holy and Indyvisible Trynyty of Norwich, of the foundation of king Edward the sixth, and the chapter of the same place, by their indenture, sealled with their common chapter seall, and enrolled in her highness court of chauncery, dated the fifth of February, the twenty-first year of Elizabeth, *inter alia*, have dymyzed, granted, and letten to farme, to our said sovereign lady the queen, all that their parsonage of Hemblyngton in the county of Norfolk, with all its appurtenances, and all their mannor called the Normans, with its appurtenances, in the county of the citty of Norwich, with all th'owses and grounds, called the hospitall of St. Paull in the Normans, with their appurtenances; and also all the howses and grownds within the precynct of the cathedral church of Norwich, called the charnell howses, with their appurtenances; to have and to howld from the annuntiation of our lady next after the date, unto the end of one hundred yeres, paying to the said dean and chapter and successors with the other things as therein contained.

"And whereas the said queen, by indenture under the great seal, dated the eighth of May, in the twenty-first year of the queen, hath dymysed, &c., to the said Richard Conengesby and Nicholas Brooke the said indenture of lease of the said George Gardyner, to hold the premises during the term, &c. Now this indenture witnesseth, that the said Richard Conengesby and Nicholas Brooke do grant, sell, &c., to the said John Bayt (*alias* Bate), his executors and assigns, all their estate, right, title, &c., in the premises."

A bond of five hundred marks was sealed by the said dean and chapter to the mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty of Norwich, dated the nineteenth of December,

in the twenty-fifth year of Elizabeth. Condition—to "stand to and perform th' awarde and decree, &c., of Richard Davye and Richard Godfrie, esqs., arbitrators, elected as well on the part of the said dean and chapter as on the part of the said mayor, sheriffs, cittizens, and commonalty, to determyne of such right, title, and interest as the said dean and chapter do pretend to have of, in, and to the site of the late chappell or chantrie, commonlie called the charnell-howse, nowe used for the common schole-house for the said citty of Norwich, being within the precincte of the cathedral church aforesaid, nowe in the occupacion and possession of the said mayor, sheriffs, cittizens and commonalty; and of, in, and to all the howses, yards, gardens, &c., belonging to the same, now also in their occupation and possession; and also of and for such right, title, &c., as the said dean and chapter have or cleyme of, in, and to the site of the late hospitall of St. Paull, commonly called the Normans, nowe called Brydwell, in the parish of St. Paull within the said citty, now also in their occupation."

The award of the said Richard Davye and Richard Godfrie.—"That, forasmuch as the said mayor, sheriffs, cittizens, and commonalty have showed forth to us the letters patent of king Edward the sixth, dated the first of July, the second year of his reign, whereby the said late king, by the advice of his uncle, Edward, duke of Somerset, governor of his person and protector of his realms, and by the advice of other of his counsellors, dyd grant to Edward Warner, knight, and Richard Catlyn of Norwich, the yonger, gentleman, *inter alia*, the said scyte of the aforesaid chappell or chauntry, and all other the howses, &c., belonging, by the name of the charnell-hows of St. Thomas,*

* Should be St. John.

within the said precynct, then or late in the hands of the minister and chapleynes of the same late chappell or charnell, to have and hold to them, their heirs and assigns, for ever; the estate of which the said Sir Edward Warner, and Richard Catlyn, of and in the premisses, the said mayor, sheriffs, cittizens, and commonalty, have and do enjoy, by and under certain good and lawful mean conveyances in wryting, to us the said arbitrators lykewise showed. And the said mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty, being of the premisses thereby lawfully seysed in their demesne as of fee, have long sithens altered and converted the same to a school-hows, to teach grammar schollers, and therin have assigned lodgings and rometh, as well for the hed master as for the usher, to their great costes and charges, &c.; until now of late the dean and chapter of the said cathedral church have pretended tytle therunto, as supposing or pretending the same to have been given them by the letters patent of the said king Edward the sixth, as parcel of their possessions within the precynct of their said cathedral church, before the said letters patent made by the said late king Edward to Sir Edward Warner and Richard Catlyne. And thereuppon, the said dean and chapter, by the name of George Gardiner, doctor of divinity, &c., and chapter, &c., did demise to queen Elizabeth, &c., as before-mentioned; which said John Bate hath heretofore surrendered and given up his supposed interest and term of years in the premises unto the said dean and chapter; namely, in the said charnell and hospitall of Normans, by deed dated the first of January, in the twenty-fifth year of queen Elizabeth. And also, forasmuch as the said mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty hath showed us an indenture of lease of the said scyte of the hospital of St. Paull, called the Normans,

and now called Brydwell, with the appurtenances, sealed by the said dean and chapter, and made to the said mayor, &c., bearing date the twenty-first of September, in the seventeenth year of queen Elizabeth, for five hundred years. Whereof the said mayor, &c., by virtue of the same indenture have bene ever sythens and yet are possessed, and part of the same hows haue employed and used for lodgengs for straungers, as in tyme past hath been accustomed, and part thereof have converted to a brydewell and hows of correction for sturdie beggars, and therein have set them to work, to the great benefit of the commonwealth. And the same howses have ever sythens to their great costes and charges maynteyned, and sufficiently repayrd. Know yee now, that we, the said arbitrators, having before us the mayor of the said city, and certain of th' aldermen, and the dean of the said church, and certen of the prebends, and hearyng and considering the causes of controversie, and all the evydences being seen, perused, &c., Do award, that the said mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty have good right, title, and interest in the said late chappell or chauntrie, commonly called the charnell-house, &c., saving only a rent-charge of three shillings and four-pence out of one parcel of ground, parcel of the premysses, and payable yearly at the feast of Easter to the said dean and chapter and their successors. And that therefore the said mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty, owght to have, hold, and enjoye the same chappelle, &c., for ever. And further, that the said dean and chapter and their successors, and every other person pretending any lawful interest in the premysses, shall at all tymes hereafter doe and suffer, or cause to be done and suffered, all and euery act, &c., whatsoever, for the better and further assurance of the premysses to the said mayor, &c., and their successors, or to such

person or persons as shall by the said mayor, &c., be thereunto named or appoynted to th' use of the same mayor, &c.

"The arrears of the said rent of three shillings and four-pence, being, for thirty-two years, five pounds six shillings and eight-pence, shall be paid to the said dean and chapter, upon Dr. Spencer's tomb, within the said cathedral church.

"Further, we award, &c., that the said mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty shall enjoy the Normans, now called Brydewell, to them and to their successors, for the residue of the term of five hundred years before mentioned. In witness whereof, we, the said arbitrators, to this our present award have set our seals. Given on the eleventh day of January, in the twenty-fifth year of queen Elizabeth."*

In the same year and month, namely, A. D. 1583, the seventeenth of January, in the twenty-fifth year of Elizabeth, John Bate, before mentioned, granted to the mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty, all that the manor called the Normans, with all its appurtenances, with all the houses and grounds called the Hospital of St. Paul, and all his estate, title, and interest therein, by virtue of the aforesaid indenture of assignment from R. Conengesby and N. Brooke. And the particulars thereof appear by the following schedule annexed, namely, the parcels belonging to the manor of the Normans in possession and reversion.

"*Imprimis.*—The mannour, with all the profyghtes of court and leete, and increase of rents, twenty-eight shillings and ten-pence.

"*Item.*—The rectory or personage of St. Paulle, valued at thirty-three shillings and four-pence, now letten for six shillings and eight-pence.

* C. L. A., fol. 105, &c.

"*Item.*—A close or yard, called Showldam's yard, now in the tenure of Mrs. Whalle for certain yeres yet to come, and paye at this tyme three shillings and four-pence.

"*Summa.*—One pound eighteen shillings and ten-pence."

"All the whole hows of the hospitalle of St. Paulle, called the Normans, whereof the said mayour, shrevis, citizens, and commonaltye, have the one parte in possession, the other parte they are to injoye in revercion after the'nd of William Blenerhasset his lease.

"*Item.*—A greate close in revercion, called Spyk's Close."

These last parcels are not valued for the time.*

Now, as to the bridewell, after the house in St. Andrew's parish was purchased by the city, and appointed for the same use, A. D. 1598, the houses belonging to the Normans were let out, and the revenues assigned to the maintenance of the said new bridewell.

A. D. 1631.—The city leased to Robert Brooke, for ten pounds paid down, the Normans for twenty-one years, at eight pounds per annum rent, except the chambers and rooms used for alms-rooms for poor widows on the east part of the court-yard, &c. Also, the said Robert Brook was obliged to take in and lodge, for one night, in a convenient room within some part of the said premises, all and every such wayfaring person and persons as hereafter shall be sent unto the said house by the mayor for the time being, for the purpose aforesaid.† And, in the lease made A. D. 1687, the said alms-rooms are also excepted, and lodging to be found as aforesaid. The said house of the Normans is situated on the south side of a street, which lies between the same and the churchyard of St. Paul's church; and one part of it is a high old-fashioned house, which hath a wide and long chamber, namely,

* *C. L. A.*, f. 114 and 115. † *C. L. A.*, f. 297.

twenty-four yards long and eight yards broad, wherein are now twelve distinct apartments, inhabited by so many poor widows, appointed by the officers of the said St. Paul's parish, who have their dwellings there gratis; and once a month two dozen of bread (as they call it, that is, two shillings' worth) divided amongst them, of the gift of old Salter, the priest before mentioned. There is an alley between these little rooms, extending from the one end of the chamber to the other.

From having been so long inhabited by women, the house is commonly called the Sisters of Normans; and the people of the parish believe it was founded by two sisters, and that anciently it served for the entertainment of pilgrims going to the Lady of Walsingham, who, they say, were to receive here meat, and drink, and lodging, for one night, and four-pence in the morning: then to proceed on their journey. But let the account I have before given correct this tradition.

And as to the said manor, the city, instead of having profit, were indeed losers by it, as appears from the accounts of receipts and expences, namely,—

RECEIPTS.

	£.	s.	d.
"A. D. 1625.—Normans Manor. Received of divers persons for the rent of divers grounds and tenements belonging to the same, (the particulars being expressed in an account of A. D. 1585) due at Michaelmas	0	16	11¼
"Of divers persons for copyhold rents belonging to the said manor (as in said account)	0	12	3
"Of William Wardon, for the whole year's ferme of an orchard, let by indenture, and holden of said manor	0	3	4
"Of Daniel Burman, for a fine	0	2	4
"*Summa*	£1	14	10¼"

DISBURSEMENTS.

	£.	s.	d.
" Paid to the bailiff of Christ-Church, for the year's ferme of the said manor	2	0	0
" Paid the steward for keeping the court there	0	3	4
" Paid charges of a dinner for the steward, chamberlains, and their counsel, and some tenants ...	0	19	8
" *Summa*	£3	3	0"*

Also, A. D. 1626, the whole year's profits were but thirty-four shillings and ten-pence farthing, and payments out three pounds three shillings and ten-pence; and A. D. 1633, the profits or receipts but thirty-two shillings and sixpence farthing, and payments forty shillings and ten-pence; no court being kept that year,† which I think is the last year of it in the chamberlain's accounts. This was a time of contention between the city and the church.

And I find that, in the beginning of the year 1634, namely, the twenty-third of January, this order was made by the court of mayoralty, namely,—" Upon consideration taken of the passages of the conveyances of the manor of Normans, which the city claimeth under the title of queen Elizabeth, by virtue of a lease to her made by the dean and chapter, in the twenty-first year of her reign; and of the site of the manor of Normans, which the city claimeth by virtue of a lease made in the seventh year of the reign of queen Elizabeth, by the dean and chapter, to the said city for five hundred years, it is thought fit that the dean be attended, and that it be intimated to him that, if the church will permit the city to enjoy St. Paul's church, and the Shouldham yard, and the rest of the things demised according to the demise, then the city will hold the lease and pay the rent: if not, the city will willingly

* *Comp. Camerar. Civit.* A.D. 1625. † *Comp. Camer.*

leave what they claim by that lease, and hold only the site of the manor for five hundred years, and will give order for the delivery of the rolls and rentals."—(And I believe the city quitted the manor the same year.)

HILDEBROND'S HOSPITAL.

Another hospital there was, on the west side of Conesford-Street, not far north from the church of St. Peter of Southgate, and adjoining to the south side of the churchyard of the *quondam* parish church of St. Edward, which was founded about A. D. 1200, by Hildebrond, a mercer and noted citizen of Norwich, whereof, in the register of the archdeaconry of Norwich, made in Edward the third's time, it is thus recorded:—"There is in the parish of St. Edward, a certain hospital called Hildbronde's Spytelle, lying near the churchyard on the south side, built with houses, and a hall and chamber (or apartment) for the master. In which said hospital, poor people, wanting lodging, (*hospitium*) ought to be entertained, (*hospitari*) and to have a certain quantity of fewel (*focalium*) from the master. The same master hath also a certain chapel appropriated to the said hospital, and annexed to the church of St. Edward aforesaid, at the west end of it. And there belong to the same chapel one missal, one portuis, one vestment, two altar-cloths, one napkin, two phials, and a chest for the vestment. And the master aforesaid may celebrate (mass) in the same chapel freely, as often and whensoever he pleaseth. And the hospital aforesaid is worth a hundred shillings per annum."*

The following deed was for the ground purchased to build the hospital upon, or ground adjoining belonging to it, which take from the original:—

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* *Reg. Archid. et Doomsd. E. Cath. N.*

"Know all men that I, Roger, the son of Richard de Duneviz, have granted and delivered to Hildebrond the mercer, and his heirs, the half part (*medietatem*) of all the ground in the parish of St. Edward, in Cunegesford, which lyes between the churchyard of the said church, and the ground of Hervey, the son of Toche, to have hereditarily, and to hold of me and of my heirs, paying thence yearly six-pence at the Feast of St. Michael. For this grant and livery, the before-named Hildebrond hath given me ten shillings (*de Gersumia.*) And I and my heirs will warrant to him and his heirs the ground before mentioned, against all people now being and for time to come succeeding. And that this grant may remain firm and unshaken, I have corroborated the present charter with the security of my seal, these being witnesses: John, the son of Copine; Hervey, the mercer; John, the son of Herbert; Simon Erl; Reginald Picot; Geffrey, the son of Sibwine; William Cureie; Gilbert le Brun; Ranulph, the mercer; Walter Russel; Eustace, the son of John; Adam Ferant; and others."*

In the third year of king Edward the first, it was presented by a jury before the king's justices, that Simon, sometime bishop of Norwich, had appropriated to himself the donation of a certain hospital in Norwich, founded in the king's fee by Hildebrond le mercer, sometime citizen of Norwich, which is worth twelve marks per annum, and that the present bishop does the same.—They know not by what warrant.

REVENUES BELONGING TO THE SAID HOSPITAL.

The total of the revenues are estimated before: some of the particulars are as follow:—

* *Autograph in Guildhall N. Inter. Cart. Hospit. S. Egidii.*

Ralph, bishop of Norwich, granted, in the eighteenth year of Edward the first, to John, the son of Simon le mercer, and his heirs, a messuage in St. Edward's parish, next the river, sometime the messuage of Hildebrond the mercer, paying yearly to the hospital of the said lord bishop of Hildebrond's, and to the master of the same for the time being, eight shillings and six-pence.

And Robert de Dalby then quit-claimed his right in the said messuage to the same Simon, which he had before held of the grant of John de Royng, sometime master.*

A tenement on the north side of Sandgate.

Out of a messuage at the corner on the south side of a lane, now called St. Ann's Lane, in Conesford, a rent of three shillings and six-pence.†

Out of a messuage of the prior and convent of Norwich, on the south side of St. Peter's of Parmontergate churchyard, thirty-pence per annum.‡

A. D. 1262.—The master and brethren of this hospital, by a deed under their common seal, granted to Mr. Adam of St. Alban, and his heirs, a piece of ground in the said parish of St. Peter Parmontergate, paying yearly forty-pence.§

Out of a messuage of the fee of the said master and brethren upon the Cordwainer-row, in the parish of St. Peter of Mancroft, a perpetual rent of fifteen shillings and six-pence.‖

The infirmarius of the monastery of the cathedral church of Norwich paid to the said hospital a rent of two shillings and sixpence.¶

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* *Rot. Cart.*—18 Edward I. † 19 Edward I.

‡ A. D. 1267, 52 Henry III.—*Aut. A. E N.* § *Aut. A. E. N.*

‖ Tempore Henry III.—*Aut. A. E. N.*

¶ *Compot. Inf. E. N.*—34 Henry VI.

The city paid to it seven shillings and six-pence per annum, for a stall or stalls in the market.*

The hospital of St. Giles, two shillings.†

RENTS RESOLUTE BY THE SAID HOSPITAL.

To the city of Norwich, four-pence per annum landgable, for the messuage first mentioned.‡

To the prioress of Carhowe, four-pence, (as it seems) for some ground adjoining to the hospital.§

BENEFACTORS.

A. D. 1428.—William Setman, C. N., (sometime mayor of the city) by his last will thus: "Item.—I will that a conference shall be had with the master of Ivy-halle, late called the Hospital, in Conysford, in Norwich. If the master for the time being will, for the future, submit to and observe with effect the (*onus antiquum dicto hospitali impositum*) ancient charge (or orders) imposed (or constituted) for the same hospital, that then the rent of old time coming (or due to that hospital) out of two houses, whereof the one is situated at the end of the lane which leads to the collegiate church of St. Mary, on the north side, and the other house, late of John Spycer, in Overnewport, in Norwich, be restored to the hospital aforesaid."‖

From this, you may observe that the priests had in this hospital (as in those of St. Paul and St. Giles, which they had the government of) perverted the charitable purpose of the founder, and took most of the profits to themselves, though they kept up something of the form of an hospital.

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* *Comp. Thes. Civ.*—26 Henry VI. † 45 Edward III.

‡ *Doomsd.*—20 Richard II., &c.

§ Rental Carrow.—Temp. Edward III. ‖ *Reg. Surflet*, f. 124.

It becomes all persons, to whom the government of any hospital or other charitable donation is committed, to be strictly careful that the charities be rightly employed and preserved, that so neither the people of their own times, nor posterity, may have any just occasion to censure them; but especially for conscience' sake they should do this.

Observe also, that the name was changed to Ivy-hall, probably from ivy growing on the old walls of it.

A. D. 1440.—Robert Steynton, rector of the churches of St. Julian and St. Edward, "bequeathed to the hospital of St. Edward, a green coverlet, a pair of blankets, and a pair of sheets. A. D. 1457. Item.—To the poor of the hospital of Ivy-halle, ***."*

A. D. 1458.—Emma Sewy, of St. Edward's parish, willed "to be buried in the chapel of St. Mary, built near the church of St. Edward. Item.—I bequeath to the said church, one vestment, newly made. Item.—I will that the said chappel of St. Mary be paved with brod Flaundryssche tyle."†

A. D. 1459.—Alice, the relict of William Grey, late alderman, bequeathed "to the repair of the beds of the hospital of Ivy-halle, in Norwich, two shillings.‡

HOSPITAL DE HILDEBROND.§

HOSPITALE B. MARIE DE HILDEBROND, IN CONESFORD, 1401.‖

NOTE.—This hospital is called the Hospital of St. Mary, in one writing which I have seen, datcd 8 Edward II., which says it was founded by Hildebrond and Maud his

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* *Reg. Doke*, f. 144. † *Reg. Decani N., in Guildhall.*
‡ *Reg. Betyns*, f. 49. § *Cart. Autog.*—1 Edward III.
‖ *Lib. Instit. temp. Hen. Spenser, Epi. Norwic.*

wife;* and several times the Chantry of Ivy-halle, as 22 Edward IV., 1, 2, Richard III., 1 Henry VII., &c.

Hospital de Hildebrond voc. Ivy-halle.†

And in the catalogue of Religious Houses suppressed, Hilderland's hospital, when it was valued at no more than fourteen shillings and two-pence.

MASTERS OF THE SAID HOSPITAL.

Nicholas, rector of the church of Bernham, master.—47 Henry III., 1262.‡

John de Roynge, late master.—18 Edward I.

Thomas de Mutforde, chaplain, master.—18 Edward I.§

This Thomas was probably the forestalling corn-buyer, of whom we find this note of amercement, namely,—"Of Master Thomas of Hildebronde spitel, because he buys corn before it comes to the market, whereby the baillives lose their toll, four shillings.‖

5 Idus May, 1320.—The bishop of Norwich granted to John de Wykelwode the custody of his hospital of Hildebrund:¶ and he was master, 1 Edward.**

Robert de Langele was custos afterward; and, on the twenty-first of December, 1353, the bishop granted the custody of it, vacant by the resignation of the said Robert, to Henry de Plumpstede, priest, with all its appurtenances; and with charge of account, to be yearly rendered according to the form of the novel constitution (*quia contingit*) in that behalf set forth.

13 May, 1385.—Petrus Mighal, custos admissus, ad præs. Dni Regis nomen, ratione temporalium Episcopatûs Norvicensis.††

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* *Aut. in A. E. N.* † 26 Henry VI. ‡ *A. E. N.*
§ *Rot. Cart.* ‖ *Rot. Amerc. Lete Conesf. et Bern.*—24 Edward I.
¶ *Lib. Instit.* ** *A. E. N.* †† *Lib. Instit.*

8 December, 1385.—Joes. Eyr ad presentationem Dni R. eadem ratione, John de Elmham, master.—20 Rich. II.*

6 December, 1401.—Mr. William de Tryseby custos sive magister, ad coll. Dni Epi. Norwic.

3 July, 1405.—Joes. Hawkins, ad collationem Dni Epi. Norwic.

26 May, 1412.—John Bowde, late rector of St. Bartholomew's, Norwich, exchanged that living with Hawkins for the mastership of this hospital, to which he was collated by the bishop.

20 November, 1413.—William Hayton was collated.

25 March, 1419.—William Toly was collated.

Roger Malmsbury, master, on whose resignation—

12 March, 1471, Thomas Massenger was collated.

7 October, 1497.—John Jollys was collated.

Afterwards, the site of the said hospital came into the hands of the dean and chapter of Norwich, and there remains.

Whence, in a rental of Christ-Church farms, A. D. 1616, of Mrs. Mary Newhowse, widow, for Ive-hall, for one year's farm, one shilling; and A. D. 1626, the same.

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* *Lib. Instit.*

APPENDIX.

NOTES

CONCERNING

NORWICH CASTLE.

APPENDIX.

NORWICH CASTLE.

OF THE CASTLE.

In the heart of the city almost, stands the Castle, an ancient structure, built on a hill, which is seated in a certain ground called now vulgarly the Castle Dykes, and written (correctly as commonly supposed) *the Castle and Fee*,* instead of the Castle Fee, or Fee of the Castle; in Latin "*Feodum Castelli*," which signifies the land belonging to the Castle, for so the word *feodum* or fee was used. This land was called "*Castel Lond*," 13 and 15 Richard II., which ground is almost a square, but wants of a complete rectangle at the north-west part, being rounded off, and also at the opposite south-east part, which is also a deficient angle and irregular. The Hill is not in the midst, but nearest the north-west part of the said fee, whereof on the east side of the Hill is a large square ground, encompassed on the north-east and south sides with houses, and lies with a descent eastward. This part is usually called the

* Evidently Castellan Fee.

Castle Meadow, and, 49 Edward III., was also named the "Castel Medew." Here, at fair times, Whitsuntide and Trinity, are sold neat cattle.

In ancient time the Hill was not circular, as it may at first sight seem, and as it has been usually described, but was very near of a square form, as is still plainly to be seen; the four sides of it respecting the four cardinal points of the compass, though of late years two of the angles have been spoiled in part by foot-paths made; the north-east angle chiefly, which in part was defaced in the time of the civil wars by making a horn-work or platform for cannon, with a breast-work at the foot of the Hill there; but, in A.D. 1721, much more spoiled by an unnecessary large road made there for coaches and carts to go up and down the Hill; and the south-west angle also by footpaths and by digging of sand, which has caused much of the Hill there to fall down.

DIMENSIONS OF THE TOP OF THE HILL.

[*A blank left, not filled up in the Manuscript.*]

The Castle, or indeed the Keep of the Castle, (for the whole top of the Hill or Castle-yard, when walled round about, together with all the works belonging to it, was called the Castle) stands not in the midst of the Hill, but near the south-west corner of it.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CASTLE, AND DIMENSIONS.

[*A blank left in the Manuscript.*]

Anciently the top of the Hill or Castle-yard was encompassed on all sides by a strong wall, fortified with diverse towers built of brick and stone, the bricks very large, a good piece of which remains still on the south

side; but the earth on the outside of it is settled, or washed away lower than the foundation of it. To this piece of wall the jailor's house on the hill now adjoins: also part of a tower, which jutted out semicircularly, I have often seen there, till, A.D. 1707, it was beaten down, when the east part of that house was new built. No entrance could be had to the castle or top of the hill but by the castle-gate only, which was on the bridge, and was inclosed with a high wall on each side, and on the midst of it was the gate vaulted over, and with a lofty and strong tower upon it.

The castle is one of the great ornaments of the city; and whilst the walls and towers were standing around the castle-yard, they certainly rendered it the grandest ornament here, and the more from its high situation, whereby it was so conspicuous (as the castle itself still is) not only to travellers who were coming to the city, at some miles distance from it, but also in the market-place, and in many streets of the city, above the tops of the houses. A great part of the said walls (without doubt much decayed by time before) were thrown down by engines into the ditch, in the time of the great rebellion, when they made the platform before-mentioned on the east-side of the hill. But there was much of the walls standing afterwards on the west and north sides of the hill, in the memory of ancient men; and I remember, when a boy, to have seen many of the large bricks scattered about on the outside of the hill; and, A.D.1721, I saw the foundation of the wall very fair at the north-east corner, when the new large way was there made.

But of late years the beauty of the castle itself was much impaired, (in about A.D. 1707,) by taking down the battlements of it, which was done with no small labour and expense, to save the charge of repairing them, and also to have the freestone of them for repairing the ancient cracks

or clefts which were in it, from the top down to the midst, and lower, in the east and south sides of it, and for other repairs.

It is firmly believed by the generality of the common people of the city, that those clefts were made in the castle by the earthquake which happened at the crucifixion of our Saviour. But I have found tradition so very false, not only in this, but many other things relating to the ancient affairs of the city, that I must from experience say tradition is a liar; and as to this particular, the evident reason of those clefts was, because the castle was built so near the brink of the hill, that by its own weight it settled and cracked.

As for the hill, it may be observed, that it is partly natural and partly artificial; for the high ground or hill which is on the west side of the river, and beginning near Carrow on the south, runs northward into the city unto the castle-hill, which in old time was the extremity of it, in the manner of a promontory, which was very steep here on all sides, except the south, where it joined to the rest of the high ground, and was therefore well fitted by nature to be easily fortified, which was done by separating from the rest of it so much as they thought requisite for the castle, by making a prodigious large and deep ditch on that side, over which, for necessary communication, was built the fine and large stone bridge above mentioned. And also they continued the ditch round about the foot of the hill in the low ground, throwing the earth outwards, which made a bank about the ditch on all sides, though not half so high on any part as that next mentioned on the south side; but so that on all sides the bottom of the ditch was of equal depth from the top of the hill; and again, for better security, they left a bank of earth of about

twenty yards broad, and in length from east to west, about . . . . . yards, which they raised higher than the rest of the hill that lay further southward, and made so steep on both sides, and so narrow on the top, that no great number of men could possibly stand thereon to assault the castle. This still is evident in that part of the bank which lies to the eastward of the bridge; but the top of the part which is to the westward of it has been in the memory of man thrown down, made much lower, and more level or plain, and the form of it quite altered by cart-ways made through it, and by the uttermost ditch of it being filled up, &c. But beyond this they also made a second ditch in like manner further southward, over which no bridge is now to be seen. But a bridge there was anciently, because on the hill which is without the second ditch, and opposite to the stone bridge, did formerly stand the shire-house, with which there must have been a direct communication. And, besides, the church of St. John of Timberhill, which is at a further distance southward, is called in ancient writings, St. John's before the castle-gate; and several old evidences belonging to the cathedral church, mention lands and houses before the gate of the castle, in the parish of St. Martin of Bailly.

Another bridge therefore there was, but, whereas now not so much as the ruins of it are to be seen, I suppose it was made of timber; and as to the large pieces of old walls which lie now in the second ditch, whereof one is pitched so perpendicular or upright on an end, that it might be supposed to have been built there; yet upon information from ancient persons, I find those pieces did stand on the hill, near the north side of that ditch, and the ground settling, or being undermined to dig sand, they fell down into it. These walls, when standing, did seem to have

been part of a great gate and tower, which stood here at the ends of the walls of the bridge, which probably were continued further south than now they are, and ran across the bank which lies between the two ditches, unto the said wooden bridge.

And if you observe the largest of those pieces of wall, it is evident it could not be built in the ditch where it lies, because the courses of the mortar and stones of it do run parallel with the perpendicular of its height, which, if it had been built there, must have been parallel with the horizon, as it is in all buildings.

ANTIQUITY OF THE CASTLE.

The city of Norwich as well as the castle thereof, according to Alexander Nevill, owes its original to Gurguntus, the son of Belinus, the twenty-fourth king of Britain from Brutus, who after he had by war recovered the tribute which the Danes were used to pay to Belinus his father, and having slain Gutlac king of Denmark, in the sixth year of his reign, (and in returning back, granted Ireland, before uninhabited, unto Parthalus and Cantaber, Spanish [*Ducibus*] captains, to be inhabited by them under tribute) the said Gurguntus having observed in the east part of Britain a place well fitted by nature for the building a fortress on, he there founded a certain castle, which being begun in a four-square form and of white stone, on the top of a high hill (near the river, of old time called Sydumanus, afterwards the Yare),* the king, agreeably to his name, as it seems, called it Kaier Guntum, that is, the Castle of Guntus. However, according to the unstable

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* Both these names of the river are mistakes, as I shall elsewhere show.

course of human affairs, the founder thereof died before it was finished.

But Guthelinus, his successor, perfected the work begun, and fortified it with a wall, bank, [*vallo*] and double ditches, of which the one encompasseth the bottom of the hill, round about, and the other was drawn before the gate and bridge, and turned thence on either side, so that it made the form of a semi-circle, the ends whereof extended to near the diameter of the inward ditch, and would still have been seen [*cum eâ tantum non coiere*] to have almost run into it, were it not that, by the muck and rubbish [*purgamentis*] of the city, (as now for some years past hath been begun to be done) and the dirt [*sordibus*] which is daily carried out of the houses, the citizens have almost filled it up.

Moreover, he made to the castle certain subterraneous vaults of a long and blind or intricate extent; and, changing the name thereof from that of Gurguntus to his own, he caused the place to be called Kaier Guthelin in the British language, which signifies the Castle of Guthelinus.

And thus the castle remained and was called for many years; no memorable additions being made to it, that any history speaks of, except that Julius Cæsar, the great conqueror, about forty years before the incarnation of Christ, erected many buildings about the castle, as tradition relates.

But after the coming of the Saxons into Britain, the Anglo-Saxons took possession of the east part of Britain, that which now contains the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire. And A.D. 481, the said Angles made a king over their eastern Britain; and then their new king took the castle of Guthelinus for his royal seat, and the Angles began to build houses about the castle, and there dwelt, and employed themselves in fishing, and called the

castle Burchester,* but more probably it was Norchester, that is, the north castle, in regard to the Roman castle or camp at Caster.

This is the account given by Alexander Nevill, in his book called *Norwicus*,† published not long after the beginning of Queen Elizabeth's reign; and when the said queen afterwards came to Norwich, the story of Gurguntus was avowed by the citizens, in one of their shows and speeches made for her reception and entertainment here.

Another writer tells us, that Julius Cæsar built the walls of the castle, and Cassibelan the city; and that afterwards Thenatius, Lud's son by marriage with Blanche, Julius's kinswoman, gave the castle to be named Blauncheflower, and so held by that name long time.‡

In the collections of Mr. Watts,§ (some time steward of this city) I find to the same purpose, *Castrum Norwici, Caær Guntinum, et Burgh cestre.* "The castle of Norwich had Gurguntius for its founder, from whom it was at first called *Cair Guntinum* and afterwards *Cair Guthelinum*, because it was begun by Gurguntius and finished by Guthelinus." And he quotes for it *Dr Caius de Antiquitate Cantab.* f. 108.

These are the accounts such as we have of the foundation of the castle: how true I shall not say; but certain it is, the building [castle] now remaining is no work of the Britains, nor much, if at all, antienter than the Conquest, as from the manner of the architecture is easy to be judged; and indeed we do not find in any good history that the Britains had any regular buildings.

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* The Castle of the Burgh. † *Nevilli Norwicus*, p. 106 to 112.

‡ *P.L.N.N. ex MSS. Themilthorp.*

§ MS. Watts penes E. Lock, attorn. 1717.

The account which Sir Henry Spelman gives of it is of better probability, who writes, that if the city, as *Wic* in the name may imply, was called Northwic or Norwich from the castle, the castle is certainly very ancient, and perhaps older than the city, in the midst of which it is situated, as was the capitol in Rome. "For although I should judge," saith he, "from the circular form and vast compass [*immanem amplitudinem*, Qy. *altitudinem?*] and depth of the ditch, that it was a work of the Danes or Normans, and the tower [*arcem*] to be indeed of the Normans; yet, that a castle [*castrum*] was there from more ancient time, both the name of it suggests to me, and a certain charter of King Henry I., by which, upon the earnest entreaty of Herveus, the first bishop of Ely, he freed that church (*de jugo servitutis et custodia quam Castello Norwici debebat*) from the yoke of servitude and the warding due from that church to the castle of Norwich. This service could not be imposed whilst the lands of the church were possessed by the bishops, monks, or nuns, if it had not been due before, and therefore it must have been due whilst they were in secular hands, *viz.* of Tombert, prince of the southern Girvij, who gave them to his wife Ætheldred, the foundress of Ely Monastery, about A.D. 677: for whilst they were in the possession of the ecclesiastics, they [the government, I suppose] trusted more in the prayers of the church, than in the defence of arms, as say the laws of king Edward the Confessor, cap. 12.*"

That the castle of Norwich was also of an ample extent before the coming of the Normans, appears from hence, that in Domesday we read, *there were eighty-one mansions empty in the occupation of the castle.*

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* *Spelmanni Iceniana.*

"Also this castle of Norwich seems then to have been noble, as the metropolis of the province of the Iceni, to which that famous Prince of the Girvij, and so considerable a part of the isle (of Ely), if not the whole, were to do service; and to have belonged first of all to the East-Angle Kings, afterwards to the governors, called aldermen, dukes, or earls. Therefore, at the building of the said monastery, Ætheldred begged the assistance of her brother Aldulf, King of the East-Angles; and in the translation of the monks thence to Betrichsword under King Canutus, A.D. 1020, Leofine, the abbot, did the same of Earl Thurkil." —Thus he.

But there is not all the certainty one could wish for in this; for although there is indeed, in the first volume of Councils published by the same learned knight, a charter of King Æthelwulf, A.D. 855, whereby he granted to the church the tenth part of his land, and that it should be free of all taxes, and (*sine expeditione, et pontis extructione et arcis munitione*) that they might the more diligently pray to God for him.*

But it is to be noted, that whether this grant concerned the king's own lands only, or his kingdom, is not plain; and if kingdom, whether only the West-Saxon kingdom, or not. Yet Mr. Selden saith, "although that charter of ecclesiastique freedom be extant in Ingulph and Malmsbury, and *sine expeditione*, &c. (which yet, saith that learned antiquary, may be understood as for an exception), yet divers charters are anciently given as great and religious favours by Saxon Kings, which usually reserve those three—*repairing of bridges, tax for warre, and castel-gard, or repairing of them;* as of what (or being such necessary charges as) no land should or could be discharged from.

* *Spelmanni Concilia*, A.D. 855.

They are called by a special name, *Trinoda necessitas*, in a patent by King Cedwalla (A.D. 680) to Wilfrid, first Bishop of Selesey, giving him Paganham (now Pagham), in Sussex. Whereupon it was well noted, when Pope Celestin the fourth, endeavouring his grievous exactions from churchlivings in this state, under Henry the third (see Mat. Paris, 28 Henry III.), a consultation was held about what duties churchmen, by reason of their possessions, were subject to; that the old Kings of England were not so lavishly indulgent in their grants to churchmen, *quin tria semper reservarent propter publicam regni utilitatem, videlicet,—Expeditionem, Pontis et Arcis reparationes vel refectiones, ut per ea resisterent hostium incursibus;* but that they always reserved those three for the public good," &c.

And in like manner we find, in the charter or grant of Ethelbald, King of Mercia, *Concedo ut omnia monasteria et ecclesiæ regni mei a publicis vectigalibus, operibus, et oneribus absolvantur, nisi instructionibus Arcium vel Pontium, quæ nunquam ulli possunt relaxari.** See this last charter in *Spelman's Councils*, A.D. 749, where the words are—*Nisi instructionibus Pontium vel necessariis defensionibus Arcium contra hostes, quæ non sunt renuenda.* Saving the repairing of bridges, or necessary defence of the castles against enemies, which are not to be refused by the men of the church.

So that it seems all the land in the nation was either assigned to bear, or was upon occasion chargeable with, the castle-guard of some castle or other in ancient times. The castle of Dover had a garrison of one thousand men, and other castles in England were defended in like manner as that of Norwich, by the knights, who held so many fees, on condition to ward a certain number of weeks, which

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* Selden's *Titles of Honour*, part 2, p. 301.

services were at length generally turned to contributions in money.*

But if, after all, those particular castle-guard services of Norwich Castle, which we have an account of, should be found to have been settled by the Conqueror, although then the reasoning of Sir Henry Spelman upon the matter would not prove the antiquity of it mentioned, so neither would this, if allowed, disprove or abate it. But I cannot help thinking, from those passages in our historians which mention how William the Conqueror subjected the lands of the church to secular services, that this castle-guard

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* *Survey of Kent*, 4to. 1658, p. 80. "The Conqueror made Lord John Fynes (his kinsman) constable of the castle of Dover by inheritance, and gave him very many knights' fees for his better maintaining of the same. And the said constable made eight chief captains or lieutenant-governors of his castle, and to them such knights' fees were assigned, and for the same they warded in this castle yearly, as followeth, viz:—

	Knights' Fees.	Warded Weeks.
Sir William of Albrance, otherwise Albrank, had twenty-one knights' fees, and warded twenty-eight weeks	21	28
Sir William of Arsick	18	24
Sir Fulbert of Dover	15	20
Sir Jeffrey Peverell	14	20
Sir William Mamouth	24	32
Sir Robert Porth	12	24
Sir Hugh Crevequer	5	24
Sir Adam Fitzwilliams	6	24

And by this means there were always one thousand men in the same for the guard thereof. And these captains built and repaired their several towers on this castle."

But how they compute that thousand men I don't understand; for I take it that it appears the knight's service was due but for so many weeks at a time, and then ceased for so many weeks, so that about half of them were upon duty at a time; and therefore there being but one hundred and fifteen fees, the half, fifty-seven, requires near twenty men for each fee.

service was included. Matthew Paris (as quoted by the said worthy knight, in his *Codex Legum Veterum*, A.D. 1070, and by Mr. Selden, *Titles of Honour*, *part 2*, *p.* 283,) saith, "All the bishopricks and abbeys which held baronies, and had them till then free from all secular service, he put under (*servitute militari*) knight's service, enrolling all and singular the bishopricks and abbeys according to his pleasure; how many knights he would have found by each of them for himself and his successors in time of war. And, laying up the rolls of this ecclesiastic service in his treasury, he forced many ecclesiastics, who contended against that wicked constitution, to flee out of the kingdom."

And also, as far as I can find, much the greater part of the lands which owed castle-guard service to the castle of Norwich, were the lands belonging to churches, as the lands of the Bishop of Norwich, of the Abbot of Bury, of the Abbot of Ely. And I think it appears still plainer to have been so, from these passages in the registers of the said abbey of Bury, viz.:—These are the lands of the (*feudatorum hominum*) feudatory tenants of St. Edmund and of Abbot Baldewine, who infeoffed almost all the knights presently after the conquest. At Mideltune, Richard holds of the saint one carucate of land, three villains, and two borders, and two salt-pits, and one sokeman of five acres of land. At Herlinge he holds one carucate of land, and four villains, and five borders. And the rest of the knights follow, and what they held, in like manner. And at the end of the account is this note: *Memorandum*—"That the aforesaid Abbot Baldewyne, who lived in the time of the holy King Edward, and afterwards in the time of King William, the first after the conquest, did infeof diverse knights and others for the defence of the kingdom, to be performed for the church of St. Edmund

for ever, of the lands and tenements belonging to the said church, as is above expressed, with a hundred carucates of land."* And other abbots after him infeoffed many other persons afterwards of diverse lands and tenements of the church, for the same cause, as elsewhere appears.

But if Norwich, viz. North Wic, signifies the North Castle (as is with good probability conjectured by several learned men), then the antiquity of the castle is proved by the name of the city; which was called Northwic in King Athelstan's time, and probably long before.

In the Conqueror's time we come to certain and indisputable accounts of this castle. A castle, and a very strong one, there was in Norwich in the beginning of his reign, and which Ralph, earl of the East-Angles, had or took possession of, when he rebelled against that king, A.D. 1074. Probably he had the command of the king's garrison here; for after the king had obtained possession of England, the better to keep it, he placed garrisons in the cities and castles, and founded so many new castles, that he surpassed therein all his predecessors.†

After he [Ralph] had fled, his countess and knights defended the same a good while against the siege of the king's army; till having obtained a good capitulation, they surrendered it.‡

About ten years after, the book called Doomsday, or the Conqueror's Survey of England, was made, wherein we find ninety-eight [*mansuræ*] houses of the city were in the occupation of the castle.

These, it seems, were either pulled down to enlarge the outworks, or were occupied by the garrison, or were as-

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* *Reg. Pyncebek*, f. 181, &c. and *Reg. Nigrum*, f. 132, &c.

† *Spelm. ex. MS. in Cod. L.L. vet. apud Wilkins Leges Anglo-Sax. &c.*, p.p. 285, 290, 292.

‡ S. Dunelm, M. Paris, &c.

signed to be under the jurisdiction of the constable of the castle, after the time of King Edward the Confessor.

A.D. 1087, a confederacy being made by the barons against William Rufus, the castle of Norwich was seized for a while by Roger Bigot, who grievously spoiled the country about.*

A.D. 1136, Hugh Bigot did the like upon the rumour of King Stephen's death; but upon the king's coming hither in person, the castle was surrendered to him.†

The said King Stephen, among other things, gave this castle to his son, William, Earl of Moreton, but he was dispossessed of it by King Henry the second, A.D. 1155, contrary to his agreement.‡

A.D. 1173. King Henry, son of the said Henry the second, in his father's life-time king, and rebelling against him, promised to Hugh Bigot, amongst other things, to keep him in his interest, that he and his heirs for ever should have the custody of the castle of Norwich. But the old king prevailed, so it took no effect.§

A.D. 1216. Lewis, the French king's son, came to Norwich, and put a garrison into the castle, which Thomas de Burgo, the governor of it, had deserted.¶ But Polydore Virgil says, "Lewis reduced the castle with no small difficulty [*non parvo negotio*], and that among the prisoners taken in it was the said Thomas de Burgo."‖

In the fourth year of Henry the third, a gaol was made at Norwich, for the county of Norfolk (in the castle I suppose), and at Ipswich [for] Suffolk.**

In the sixth†† year of King Henry the third, the king appointed a baron of the exchequer, and the remem-

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* S. Dunelm, *Sax. Ann. &c.* † M. Paris, *&c.*

‡ Bromton, W. Newbrig, &c. § Bromton. ¶ M. Paris.

‖ *Hist. Angl.* ** *Claus.* 4 Hen. III. *m.* 15, P.L.N.N.

†† Query, forty-sixth?

brancer to account with Philip Marmion, for the charges of repairing and victualling the castle of Norwich.*

And in the forty-sixth year of Henry the third, Hubert de Morley and Nich. de Burgo were [*visores*] the surveyors of the victuals and other things for [*muniendum*] strengthening the castle of Norwich, and engaged for the payment of fifty-seven pounds sixteen shillings for things bought for that purpose.†

In the forty-eighth year of Henry the third, the castle of Norwich was a prison for some of the state prisoners; for then John de Vallibus, constable thereof, had the king's writ to bring with him Gerrard de Furnival, Will. de Eylesford, Ralph de Bruton, John Estormy, and other prisoners in his or his sub-constable's custody, to be exchanged for other prisoners.‡ Witness the King at London, the fourth of June.§

In the account of the sheriff of Norfolk, in the second of King Edward the first, he gives an account of fifty-five pounds which he laid out in the repairs of Norwich castle, and ninety pounds for the custody thereof.¶

The same year it was complained of, that William Belet had built a castle at Marham, to the prejudice of [our] lord the king, and of his castle of Norwich: because if war should arise (*quod absit*), the king's enemies might there have a safe retreat [*receptaculum*], and destroy the whole country, and all the ancient religious houses, &c.‖

Also in the twenty-seventh year of Edward the first, certain works were made in the castle of Norwich, in the

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* *Collectan. D. Thoroton MS.* pt. 2, p. 18, penes P.L.N.N.

† *Mem. Scaccar. Term. Hillar.* 46 Hen. III. P.L.N N.

‡ Pat. 48 Hen. III. *m* 12 *D. apud Rymer's Fœd.* v. 1, p. 792, P.L.N.N.

§ *See Appendix to Dr. Brady's Hist.* No. 212.

¶ *Coia. Mich.* 3 Edw. I. P.L.N N.

‖ *Rot. Inquisit. fact. per præcept. Dom. Regis. Hundr. de Clacklosa in Cur. Recept. Scacc. Westm.* 3 Edw. I. P.L.N.N.

time of William de Rothing, sheriff, whereupon a commission was given to William de Carleton, baron of the exchequer, to view those works, and enquire concerning the expense of them, and to certify the treasurer and barons of the exchequer.*

In the second year of Edward the first, we find again that the castle of Norwich was a prison for state prisoners; for then Patrick de Palesdache, a Scot, Rese, brother of Malgon, and Griffin his father, and * * * * son of Rese ap Meredick, Welshmen, were prisoners there. And the sheriff of Norfolk had the king's writ to allow them the arrears of their allowance, due to them in the time of King Edward the first, and the same allowances for the future out of the issues of his bailiwick.†

In the fifteenth year of the said King Edward the second, the following writ was issued for fortifying the castle of Norwich:—

"Norff. Suff. The king willing for certain causes that the castle of Norwich, which is in the custody of the sheriff by the king's commission, may be competently fortified [*muniri*], and safely kept, it is commanded the sheriff, by the allegiance which he owes the king, that he cause the aforesaid castle to be competently fortified with victuals and other things necessary and convenient for the keeping and fortification thereof, out of the issues of his bailiwick, without any delay, lest for defect of fortification, or sufficient guarding [*custodiæ*], danger might in any manner threaten [*immineat*] the king. And this, as he loves himself and his, and as he would avoid the indignation and most grievous forfeiture of the king, he must not omit. But the reasonable expenses which shall happen to be laid

* *Hill. Commiss.* 26 & 27 Edw. I. R. 46, D. Madox, *Hist. Excheq.* p. 590, P.L.N.N.

† *Claus.* 1 Edw. II. m. 4, Rymer, v. 3, p. 78, P.L.N.N.

out by the same sheriff about the fortification aforesaid, when the king shall have duly known them, he will cause the same to be allowed to the same sheriff in his accompt at the exchequer. Also concerning those things which the sheriff shall apply to the fortification aforesaid, and of the price of them (of all and singular which things, unless for necessary cause it should be requisite to apply and expend them about the safety [*salvationem*] of the same castle, the king will be answered by him), he shall cause the treasurer and barons of the exchequer to be certified at Westminster, in the Octaves of St. Hilary, distinctly and apertly every thing in particular. And must there have then this Writ. Teste W. de Norwyco, the twenty-ninth of December. *Per breve de privato Sigillo directum prædicto W. tunc Custodi Thesaurarie Regis.*"*

Note.—At the same time like commands went to other sheriffs, to furnish several castles.

But in the latter end of the next reign, it appears that the castle was very much out of repair,† from this representation of it made to the king by Edmond de Thorpe, who, I think, was high sheriff of Norfolk, in the forty-fifth year of King Edward the third, viz. :—

"To our most redoubted lord the king, and to his good council, Edmond [Esmon] de Thorpe, sheriff of Norff. and Suff., showeth, that whereas our said Lord the king hath committed to him, by reason of his office, the custody [*la garde*] of the castle of Norwycz, the which castle is so consumed and spoiled in the houses and habitations, as well as in the walls, timber, lead, as

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* *Mich. Brevia retornab.* 15 Edw. II. *Rot.* 85, 6, *apud* Madox, *Hist. Excheq.* p. 263.

† The walls of the city were finished 17 Edward III.; from which time it should appear by this that the defences of the castle had been neglected.

also in other things, so that no man can dwell in it for the safeguard of the castle, nor reside for any other occasion. Wherefore may it please our said lord the king to assign some certain person in whom he can confide, to survey the said castle, and the defaults of it; and moreover, to enquire in whose time, and by whom, and by what default, the said castle is thus consumed and spoiled, and by whom the stones, timber, and lead, and other things of the said castle have been broken down, carried and conveyed away, so that the said Edmond for his time may bear no other blame nor charge than what of reason he ought. And further, according to what he shall find by good and faithful inquisition, to ordain what shall please him, about the redressing and repairing of the same."*

From these accounts, it is evident beyond contradiction, that the castle of Norwich was a royal castle; and therefore the great Mr. Camden, and all others who have related that it was built by Hugh Bigot, earl of Norfolk, are mistaken. There are, indeed, lions cut in the stone-work of the castle, from which, taking them for arms, Mr. Camden, &c. conjectured Bigot to have been the founder. The only lions which I have seen there are one on each side of the arch of the great entrance, which was on the east side of the castle. But these lions are *passant regardant*, (yet contrary ways,) and it does not appear they were designed for arms; but, if they were, they may better be taken to have been for an allusion to the king's arms, which anciently were two lions only.

CASTLE-GUARD SERVICES.

Now I shall give a particular account of the castle-guard services before mentioned, which were of old time paid to this castle.

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* *Transcript. coæv. penes* P.L.N.N.

Of the castle-guard rents paid by the bishop of Norwich, take this account of his knights' fees, and in what towns the land lay, from the account of the bishop's bailiff of his knights' fees, who collected the money of the tenants in the tenth of Edward the fourth, from Michaelmas, to Michaelmas the eleventh of Edward the fourth.

Towns.	Fees and Parts.	Times when due.	s.	d.	Total Received. £.	s.	d.
Wykmer	¼	Jan. 23	0	10½	0	1	9
		Aug. 21	0	10½			
Bernyngham ...	¼	Jan. 23	0	10½	0	1	9
		Aug. 21	0	10½			
Eggemere	1⅝	Dec. 23	5	8¼	0	11	4½
		July 21	5	8¼			
Peterstone	⅜	On the said days	0	0	0	2	7½
Rengstede	½	On the said days	0	0	0	3	6
Blyklyng	1	March 15	0	0	0	3	6
Felbrygge	¼	Dec. 3	0	10½	0	1	9
		July 1	0	10½			
Holkham	¼	On the said days	0	0	0	1	9
Helmyngham ...	1	Oct. 10	3	6	0	7	0
		May 8	3	6			
Colkyrke	1	Jan. 25	3	6	0	7	0
		Aug. 23	3	6			
Cressyngham ...	¼	Oct. 31	0	10½	0	1	9
		May 30	0	10½			
Southelmham ...	1⅙	Oct. 21	4	1	0	8	2
		May 19	4	1			
Mendham.....	1	Dec. 28	3	6	0	7	0
		July 26	3	6			
Wylbey	½	Feb. 7	1	9	0	3	6
		Sep. 5	1	9			
Westoftes	1	On the said days	0	0	0	7	0
Breydestone	5	Oct. 30	17	6	1	15	0
		May 28	17	6			
Southbyrlyngham	½	On the said days	0	0	0	3	6
Saxlyngham	1	For the part Plumbelee					
		Oct. 24	3	6	0	7	0
		May 22	3	6			
* * * *	¼	For the part Myles,					
		Oct. 22	0	10½	0	1	9
		May 20	0	10½			

Towns.	Fees and Parts.	Times when due.	s.	d.	Total Received. £.	s.	d.
Langlee	2	Nov. 23	7	0	0	14	0
		June 21	7	0			
Baktone (in Suff.)	7	Dec. 8	24	6	2	9	0
		July 6	24	6			
Gunton.....	1	On the said days	0	0	0	7	0
Hyndryngham ...	1½	Nov. 20	5	3	0	10	6
		June 18	5	3			
Segeford	½	For the part of the Prior [of Norwich] Apr. 11	1	9	0	1	9
Ditto	½	For the part of Segeford Nov. 24	1	9	0	3	6
		June 22	1	9			
Strattone	3	March 17	0	0	0	10	6
Martham	1⅜	March 20	0	0	0	4	9¾
Itryngham cum Marsham	1	Oct. 23	3	6	0	7	0
		March 21	3	6			
Cokethorpe	¼	Oct. 27	0	10½	0	1	9
		May 25	0	10½			
Meltone	3¾	March 31	0	0	0	13	1½
Norton	1	Nov. 21	3	6	0	7	0
		June 19	3	6			
Snyterton	¼	April 8	0	0	0	0	10½
Swanton	1	Feb. 17	3	6	0	7	0
		Sep. 15	3	6			
Rollesby	½	He received nothing, because it was in the hands of the Lord [Bishop.]			0	0	0
Sum of the Fees	41⅝ ⅙	Sum of the money received ...			12 . 14 . 5¾*		

All these knights' fees paid at the rate of three shillings and sixpence for each fee at the end of every thirty weeks.

Whereof, as above, were 41⅝, which, if all had happened twice in the time of the said account, would have been 7*s.* each	£1	9	0½
But of them were 9⅝ which happened but once	1	14	6¾
Which being deducted, there remains above	£12	14	5¾

* *Compot. Tho. Herberd Ballivi Feod. Militum Dni. Norwic. a Festo S. Mich.* 10. *E.* 4, *usque idem Festum* 11. *E.* 4. *In Thes. Ecc. Cath. Norwic.*

I have seen several other accounts of the knights' fees of the bishop of Norwich, as of Henry the third or Edward the first's time; and others later, as of Henry the eighth's time. But particularly an authentic account of them, whereby it appears that the sheriff of Norfolk, in the twenty-seventh year of Henry the eighth, was to answer fifty-two pounds for ward-money due to the castle of Norwich that year, according to the summons out of the exchequer; and that Bishop Rugge was distrained by Sir Walter Hobarte, knt., sheriff of Norfolk, for payment of seventeen pounds two shillings, part of the said castle-guard rents. But he was discharged of them in Michaelmas term, the thirtieth year of Henry the eighth, as in reason he ought to be, upon his pleading the act of parliament, which was made for granting all the ancient lands of his bishoprick to the king.

And there it appears that the bishop had 45¼ knights' fees, which paid him every thirty weeks three shillings and six pence for each fee. And that the bishop was used to pay yearly to the king, by the hands of the sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, seventeen pounds two shillings for the said wardings, due to the castle of Norwich.*

The differences of particulars therein from those before mentioned are:—

	Fees More.
Thorp, Bloffelde, Byghton, Rollesby, and Eccles	9½
Suff. Hoxone, Bacton, and Batesford	5

Of these, *query* if chargeable? They all were *ex-parte Regis*, but not *ex-parte Episcopi*, because the bishop had these in his own hands. The rest paid him:—

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* *Exemplificatio Processus et acquietacionis W. Rugge Episc. Norwic. de red. Castrigard. Norwic. fact.* 12 Eliz. *penes* P.L.N.N.

	Fees More.	Less.	
Southelmham.....	$\frac{5}{6}$	—	
Wykmere	$\frac{3}{4}$	—	
Cressingham	$\frac{3}{4}$	—	
Snyterton	$\frac{3}{4}$	—	
Hyndringham	—	$\frac{1}{2}$	
Saxlyngham	—	$\frac{1}{4}$	
Barnyngham	$\frac{3}{4}$	—	
Peterston	—	$\frac{1}{8}$	
	$3\frac{5}{6}$	$\frac{7}{8}$	
	$\frac{7}{8}$		
	$2\frac{1}{8}$ $\frac{5}{6}$		
	$41\frac{1}{8}$ $\frac{1}{6}$		before mentioned.
Sum there	$44\frac{1}{4}$		Knights' Fees.

So, wants one of $45\frac{1}{4}$, the number there charged, which I have examined, and find the particulars no more than $44\frac{1}{4}$. Let this suffice here concerning the bishop's knights' fees.

And all the said castle-guard rent was always charged upon the sheriffs on their account in the Pipe-roll—as, Hamo Hautein for the ward due to the castle of Norwich and Oreford; Will. de Swyneford for the same.* And the total of Norwich castle was fifty-two pounds per annum.

OF THE CASTLE-GUARD RENTS DUE FROM THE ABBEY OF BURY.

The abbey of Bury was obliged to find a ward of forty knights at this castle, till king Stephen, by the following charter, released that service:—

"Stephen, king of the English, to the archbishops, bishops, abbots, earls, justices, sheriffs, barons, ministers,

* *Mag. Rot.*, 56 Hen. III., *Norf. et Suff.*

and to all [his] faithful people, French and English, clergy and laity of England, greeting. Know all, as well present as to come, that I, for the soul of king William, my grandfather, and of my uncles, the kings William and Henry, and of my father and mother, and my relations, and also for the remission of my sins, and of Maud, the queen, my wife, and of my brethren and children, have for ever quitclaimed to God and to St. Eadmond, and to his church, and to the abbot and monks there serving God, the ward of forty knights, which they were used to make at my castle of Norwich, by four terms in the year, by ten knights residing there at each term. And moreover, whatsoever [money] the aforesaid church was used to give yearly to the [*Vigilibus*] watchmen of the castle aforesaid for the ward of the same castle. And so that they shall make the same ward at St. Edmund's [Bury] at the same terms as they made at Norwich. And this my acquittance and liberty given to the church, and offered by me upon the altar before the body of St. Eadmund, I confirm to the same church for ever, without any retraction to be obtained by royal authority; and do strengthen and corroborate by the impression of my present seal, and attestation of the barons subscribed. And lest, by any in time to come, such and so great a good should by rash presumption be attempted to be diminished, or in any manner violated, I absolutely prohibit, and by the power given me of God, do interdict it.

"Witness, Maud, the queen, and Alan, earl of Britain, and W., earl of War[ren], and William, earl of Lyncoln,"* &c.

This was done about A. D. 1140. And for further security, the monks obtained a confirmation from the archbishop.

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* *Registrum Sacriste S. Edm.* f. 25.

"Tedbald, by the grace of God, archbishop of Canterbury, to Eurard, by the same grace, bishop of Norwich, and to all bishops and barons of England. That donation of ward, *viz.* of xl. knights at the castle of Norwich, which king Stephen quitclaimed to St. Edmund, and to abbot Anselm, and his successors for ever, &c., I confirm. May eternal grace from God come upon the keepers of it; but may the Divine vengeance hang over the violators [*impedientibus*] unless they shall repent. *Amen.*"*

The sum of the knights of St. Edmund of Bury, in the twelfth year of king Henry the second, were 52½. But the church owes the right of service for only forty knights [*non debet nisi servicium* xl. *mil.*] And of these, earl Hugh retains (and denies the ward of) three knights, in the castle of Norwich.†

It was a little after, I suppose, that the same king issued the following writ:—

"Henry, king of England and duke of Normandy and Aquitain, and earl of Anjou, to Hugh, earl of Norfolk, greeting. I command you, that for the fee which you hold of St. Edmund, you cause full service to be done at my castle of Norwich, as you ought to do it, and as your ancestors were used to do in the times of my ancestors. And unless you do so, the earl of Leicester shall cause it justly to be done, that I may hear no more complaint about it for want of right or justice. Witness, Man. Biset, at the tower."‡

I suppose the earl refused to pay the monks according to king Stephen's grant, and therefore they complained of him, and procured this writ; or rather that the said king had made void that grant.

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* *Regist. Nigrum Vestiarij S. Edm.* f. 106.

† *Liber Rub. Scaccarij*, 12 Hen. II. ‡ *Regist. Sacrist. S. Edm.*, f. 27. a.

There are several lists of the knights' fees of the said abbey in the registers; but the following list being most to our present purpose, take it from their register called Pyncebeke:—

THE FEES AND SERVICES OF THE KNIGHTS WHO HOLD OF THE HONOUR OF ST. EDMUND, A.D. 1300.

	Fees.	
Roger le Bigot, earl of Norfolk, and Marshall, holds 3 fees, *viz.*		
In Brisyngham	1	Castle-guard rents (due from xx weeks to xx weeks) *nihil.*
Ferfelde	1	
Blo-Nortone	1	

And pays nothing to the ward of the castle of Norwich. But, observe, at the bottom of the page is a note referring to the before-recited writ of king Henry the second.

And folio 150, thus:—Earl Roger holds 2 knights: in Norton 1, and in Brisingham and Thersfelde 1. But he pays not ward to Norwich, because the abbot pays for him seven shillings for the space of xx weeks.

	Fees.	*s.*	*d.*
John de Hastyng, son and heir of Henry de Hastyng, who is steward by fee, holds 5 knights' fees, *viz.*—			
In Lidgate	1	5	6
Blunham	1		
Gissing	1	2	4
Tybenham	1	2	4
West Herlyng	1	1	6
Will. Bukenham holds in Old Bukenham.....	½	1	2
Steph., the son of Reginald de Brokedish in Brokedish	¼	*nihil.*	
Roger, the son of John de How, holds the fees of 2 knights, *viz.*—			
In How	⅔	6	0
Toppecroft	⅔		
Mikeffeld	⅓		
Vggeschale	⅓		

	Fees.	s.	d.
Walter de Cam holds in Kirkebi	$\frac{1}{3}$		
Roger de Thweyt holds in Geldeston	$\frac{1}{3}$	3	0
John Bigot and John de Brampton hold in Stockton and Kirkebi	$\frac{1}{3}$		
Robert Fitz-Roger holds in Marleford	1	*nihil.*	
John de Bello Campo holds 1 knight's fee, *viz.*—			
In Occlee	$\frac{1}{2}$		
Stustone	$\frac{1}{4}$	3	0
Thurston	$\frac{1}{4}$		
The heir of John de Daggesworth holds in Thrandeston	1	3	0
Gerard de Wachesham, son and heir of Gerard, holds 1 knight's fee, *viz.*—			
In Wrotham	$\frac{1}{3}$	3	0
Marlyngford	$\frac{2}{3}$		
Henry, son and heir of Ralph de Berdewelle, holds 2 knights' fees, *viz.*—			
In Berdewelle			
Hunterstone	2	6	0
(N.B. in another copy Stanstone) and			
Bernyngham			
Will. de Pakenham holds half a knight's fee, which Geffrey de Thorp sometime held in Thorp juxta Ixworth.....	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	6
Also he holds there 1 fee, which Will. le Blund and Hen. de Esexe sometime held	1	3	0
The Lord of Fakenham Magna, formerly Edm^{d} Cumyn, after David Cumyn, and afterwards Will. le Blund, but now [our] Lord the King, by reason of the present war with Scotland, holds in Fakenham Magna, and it is called Gren....s (in another copy Grenegres)	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	6
Barth. de Lyverner holds in Lyvermere Parva et Magna	$\frac{2}{3}$	3	0
The Lord of Ampton holds in Ampton	$\frac{1}{3}$		
Will., the son and heir of Will. de Criketot, holds, in Ayshfeld Parva	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	6
John, the son of Will. le Large, holds now, which sometime was joined to the said $\frac{1}{2}$ fee in Saxham	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	6

	Fees.	s.	d.
Hugh de Ver, Earl of Oxford, holds 5½ fees, and pays for each fee 2*s.* 4*d.*, *viz.*—			
In Kokefelde	½		
Ketelberstone	¼		
Lodnes and Brom	1		
Mendham	¼		
Totstoke	½	12	10
Sumertone.....	½		
Lyvermere Magna	1		
Rede	1		
Preston	½		
Rob. Pecche and Agnes his wife hold, in Bradefeld Combusta	½	1	6
The Prior of the Holy Trinity of Ipswich holds in Preston	½	1	6
The said Earl of Oxford holds by a new purchase, which Hen. de Capeles holds of him in Preston —Formerly Adam de Illeye held these together for 2 fees.	½	1	6
Peter de Denhardeston holds of the said fee of Adam de Illeye, in Illeye Combusta.....	½	1	6
Margery de Mose and Richard her son hold in Onhous and le Auney.—This Robert del Auney sometime held, and is [parcel] of the Barony, formerly of Thomas de Burgo in Cokefelde ...	1	3	0
Simon de Cokefeld holds, which formerly was [parcel] of the said Barony of Cokefelde, in Cokefelde	1	1	3
Hugh de Morieux holds in Falesham, which Robert Turgys sometimes held, and is of the Barony de Burgo aforesaid.....	½	1	6
The Convent of St. Edmund holds of the said Barony, in Cokefelde and at Uphalle	¼	0	9
Robert de Lynholt holds in Grotene, and it was of the same Barony	¼	0	9
The heir of Thomas, the son of Edmund de Illeige and Alice de Brokeley, hold ½ a knight's fee for equal portions, in Stanefield and Manneston	½	1	6
John de Weylond holds (sometime of Will. de Wridwelle), in Welnetham Parva	½	1	6
Eleanor Hovel holds (which sometime Walter de Risebi, formerly Norman, held) in Risbi	½	1	6

	Fees.	s.	d.
John, the son and heir of Thomas de Helgeye, and Nich. de Aula Hospitum and his wife Isabell, hold (which sometime Adam de Hornynges held) in Hornyngesherthe and West Stowe ...	½	1	6
Will. Telamache and Cecily his wife hold in Hallestede (Robert de Hemestede sometime held it)	1	3	0
Robert de Norwood holds (which John Alger held, sometime Reginald de Brokeleye, formerly Peter de Broceleye) in Brocleye	1	3	0
Henry, the son of Hen. de Broceleye, holds in Brocleye.—Formerly, Alan de Broceleye, and afterwards Peter, the son of Alan, held it	1	3	0
Reginald Pecche holds 3 knights' fees, *viz.*—			
In Stow Langtot	1½	9	0
Troston	¼		
Walesham and Aysshfelde.....	¼		
Waltham Parva, in the county of Essex	1		
The heir of John de Pateshille, *viz.* a certain woman, holds in Watesfelde and in Elmesese and Navilton	½	1	6
Nich. de Leleleye, and John the son and heir of Edmund de Whelnetham, hold ½ a fee for equal portions, in Maneton and Ketelberston	½	1	6
John, the son and heir of Edm. de Whelnetham, holds in Whelnetham Magna	½	1	6
Dyonisia de Monte Caniso holds (which Hubert de Anesty formerly held, and *tempore Hen. 1.*, Richard de Anesty, and it is called Briddinghoo) in Brakestede Magna	½	1	6
The heir of Eve the son of Richard Ledet, holds two parts of a knight's fee, divided into three parts, in Alba Rothingg.—This Richard de Herwe sometime held	⅔	2	0
Thomas, the son of Tho. de Esex, holds in Chippelee.—This was sometime of Will. Herelawe and John Balistar, and after of Thomas le Arblaster	⅓	*nihil.*	
John de Sancto Claro holds in Bradefeld Seyncler and Watlisfelde	2	6	0
Thomas, the son and heir of John de Ikkeworth, holds in Ikworth, Waunford, Hornyngsherthe, and Flempton.—Formerly Simon de Ikworth held them; and, 8 Ric. 1., Richard de Icworthe	2	6	0

	Fees.	s.	d.
Adam de Geddyng, Will., the heir of Giles de Neketon, and Matthew de Thelnyngham, held 3 knights' fees, which Ralph de Saxham, formerly (8 Ric. I.) Gilbert the son of Ralph, held undivided, whereof now the said Adam holds in Saxham Parva	1	3	0
Will., the heir of the said Giles, holds in Heppeworthe	½	1	6
And M. de Thelnetham holds in Thelnetham, Reydon, Bernynham, Hoppetone, and Gnateshale	1½	4	6
Robert Fitzewalter holds in Waude, in the county of Essex.—This Will. de Waude now holds of him; formerly, James de Waude held it ...	½	3	0
Thomas de Wridewelle holds in Wridewelle and Lyvermere Parva.—Formerly was of Will. de Wridewelle.*	¼	0	9

KNIGHTS' FEES OF THE ABBEY OF BURY, WHICH PAY NOTHING TO THE WARD OF THE CASTLE OF NORWICH.

	Fees.	
In Brissingham	1	But of these, see before.
Ferfelde	1	
Blo-Norton	1	
Brodish.....	¼	John de S. Clare holds it.
Marleford.....	1	Gilbert Pecche held these; but now the king holds them. And, 8 Ric. I., Gilbert held the service of 2 knights of his fee in Drencheston, Falesham, Neuton, Ouneston, Culford, Herleston, Dordewelle, & Waude. And in the Chronicle of Josceline, the chaplain of Abbot Sampson, thus: — Gilbert Pecche holds 2 knights, *viz.* in Waude, 1 knight; in Falesham, Euston, and in Grotene, 1 knight.
Bernyngham	¼	
Chippelee.....	⅓	
Falesham.....	2	
Culeford		
West Leveton		
Fees which do not pay ...	6½ ⅓	
Fees which pay, besides the ¼ fee of Wridewell, which remains in [*calumpnia*] dispute	45½ ⅔	
Fees in all (A.D. 1300) ...	53	

* *Calumpniatur quia Abbas nihil inde percipit.*

The sum of the whole ward, which is gathered five times within two years, thirty-three pounds three shillings and four pence, (the heir of Wrydewelle excepted) because it is always collected at the end of every twenty weeks.

Sum total of the payment by the hands of the bailiff of the fees to the sheriff for the ward of Norwich castle within two years, forty marks and a half.

And so there remains in the bailiff's purse, in allowance of his fee and for his labour, six pounds three shillings and four pence, within two years.

N.B. And, besides, the abbot paid for the Duke of Norfolk as before mentioned.*

Hence it appears, that, notwithstanding King Stephen's grant, the castle-guard rents were still paid to the sheriff, and so it continued after the reformation.

Take also this note from the Pyncebeke Register:—

BLACKBURN HUNDRED, SUFFOLK, 14 EDW. I.

"ELMESWELL.—The abbot of St. Edmund is capital lord, &c., and holds it of the king *in capite* of (or being part of) his barony by the service of forty knights' fees for Elmeswelle, and all his manors which he holds of [our] lord the king, and to the ward of Norwich, ten marks sterling per annum for himself, and for all his tenants underwritten, which there follow in Hildercle, Conegeston, Rikynghale, Hopeton, Coleford, Bernham, Hunegheton, Sapeston, &c."

And in like manner it is noted under Brokeforth, in Hertesmere hundred, "*Abbas de Baronia sua reddit ad omnia negocia Domini Regis XL. milites pro tempore faciend.*"

And observe hence, that although by agreement with the king, the abbot was to answer to him only with the service

* *Regist. Pyncebeke*, f. 116–122.

of forty knights' fees, for his whole barony or for all the manors and lands of the abbey, yet (besides all those manors which the abbot kept in his own hands) the lands which he granted out were estimated by him at fifty-three knights' fees, and the service of so many was to be answered to the abbot by the persons who held them, as above is particularized.

And the like increase of knights' fees was made by other great men, who held lands of the king, upon their granting them out to others to be held of them. And likewise by those other under-tenants who re-granted parcels to be held of them, &c., as is evident from a number of ancient records relating to the knights' fees in several parts of England; whence it follows, that all knights' fees consisted not each of them of the same determinate number of acres of land, nor of so much land, neither as was of the same certain and fixed yearly value of rent.

Which will be still plainer, from these Notes out of the Pyncebeke Register:*—

HERTSMERE HUNDRED.

"In WORTHAM—Gerard de Wachesham holds of the abbot one messuage, ninety-nine acres of land, three acres of meadow, and five acres of pasture, by the service of one-quarter of a knight's fee: and the abbot of the king *in capite*.

"OCLEE.—Sir Roger de Bellocampo holds the town of the abbot for half a knight's fee: and the abbot of the king *in capite*.

"STUSTON, and all the tenants of Estgate in Stuston belong to Aclee; and R. de Bellocampo holds, &c. of the abbot, by the service of three-parts of a knight's fee: and the abbot of the king *in capite*."

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* *De Itinere Salom. de Roff. et Sociorum* 14 Edw. I. *incipient.* 15, *in Com. Suff.*

Concerning these last two articles, I find in another place of the said Register, that in the Conqueror's time the abbot had in Aclea, eleven freemen of one carucate of land and five borders. Also, that in Aclea and Stuston he had sixteen freemen of one carucate, and five [*aliter fifty*] acres and twelve borders.

But to proceed with some further notes, from the account of the fourteenth of Edward the first.

"Brockele. J. Algar holds of the abbot one messuage, two hundred and eighty acres of land, one mill, &c., by the service of one knight's fee, three shillings, &c.

"Henry, the son of Henry, holds one messuage, eighty acres of land, &c., by the sevice of half a fee, one shilling and eight-pence, &c.

"William Talmache, one messuage, one hundred and forty-seven acres of land, &c., for half a fee, one shilling and four pence.

"Saxham Parva.—Adam de Geddyng holds one hundred and sixty-seven acres of land, &c. of the abbot for half a fee; and to the ward of Norwich castle, at the end of twenty weeks, two shillings and four pence.

BLACKBURN HUNDRED.

"Walsham.—Rob. de Waleynes is capital lord by his portion [*portione sua*] of the barony de Blound, and holds one messuage in the same town, three carucates and a half, and fifty-two acres of land, &c. of [our] lord the king *in capite* by the service of three knights' fees and three quarters. And to the ward of Norwich, sixteen shillings and eight pence yearly, &c."

This last article, it seems, did not belong to the abbot.

How these knights' fees were sub-divided, take this instance:—

"In PALEGRAVE.—Will. Chamberleyn holds one messuage and two and a half acres of land, of Hugh de Beufu, by the service of twelve pence; and to the ward of Norwich castle one penny farthing. And the said Hugh of Roger de Beuchaumpe, and the said Roger of the abbot of St. Edmund, and the abbot of the king *in capite*."

However, I think it also convenient to insert a note or two out of the original return or certificate, made into the king's exchequer, the fourteenth year of Henry the second, by the Bishop of Chichester, of the knights' fees belonging to his church, which seems (contrary to what I have before observed) to import, that a knight's fee consisted then of some common, known, and determinate quantity of land.

"Jordan de Isleham, Alveredus, and eight other persons named, hold one fee of a knight *et superest dimid. virgata*, and there is one yard [of] land over."

And after having particularized the persons who held eight fees and a half more, it concludes thus:—

"These are nine fees of knights and a half; and there is a ninth part of a knight over, which John de Brada holds; and these are of the ancient feoffment. But of the new feoffment, Robert de Dent holds half a fee of a knight [*dimid. hida minus*] wanting half a hide.

"In Bixla are ten hides, which the Bishop of Chichester anciently held in his demesne, but the Earl of Augens or Ewe, taking that land from the bishop and church, infeoffed therewith four knights. The bishop and church recovered of that land five hides in demesne; and two knights hold the other five hides of the bishop for two fees."*

But again, under the title of Lincolnshire, the charter or certificate of Lambert Scotennus mentions, that he held

* *Ex transcript. penes* P.L.N.N.

of the king sixteen carucates of land and two [*Bovatas*] oxgangs, by the service of ten knights. In these carucates I have five knights infeoffed of ancient time; and of the demesne I owe you the service of five knights, and of that demesne I have given to Rob. de Portmore the third part of a knight's fee.*

[OF THE CASTLE-GUARD SERVICES FROM ELY.]

The lands belonging to the monastery of Ely were also subject to the service of castle-guard at the castle of Norwich.

William the Conqueror commanded Simeon, abbot of Ely, to maintain a [*præsidium*] garrison of forty knights in Ely. And William Rufus commanded the number of the garrison in Ely to be doubled.†

Whether that was the number of the knights to do service also at Norwich castle then, I am not sufficiently informed to assert; but some the abbot was obliged to find here, for exemption from which service he obtained a writ from the said King William the second, (between A.D. 1080 and 1089).

"William, king of the English, to Lanfranc the archbishop, and Gosfride, bishop of Coustance, and Robert, earl of Moritone, greeting. Forbid that Remigius the bishop [of Lincoln] require any new customs within the isle of Heli, &c. Of the custody of Northuic, let Symeon the abbot be free, but let him cause his [*municionem*] armour (*query* guard or garrison?) to be carried thither and kept, &c."‡

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* *Liber Rubr. Scaccar.*

† Leland, *Coll.* v. 1, p. 860, *ex Histor. Eliens. Vita Simeonis.*

‡ Dr. Brady's *Append.* p. 5, No. 8, *ex Hist. Eliens. penes* Dr. Gale, p. 94.

However, this was only an exemption for a time, because when King Henry the first made Hervæus bishop of Ely, he found that church onerated with the said service, and for a good sum of money he procured that king's charter of release from it.

"Henry, King, &c. I will that the bishop, church, and monks of Ely shall be for ever quit of the ward of knights which they were used to make in my castle of Norwich, and from those twenty-five shillings and five-pence half-penny, which they gave every year to my watchman of the same castle [*de liberacione sua*] for his livery, and from all those services and works, and things whatsoever, which they were used to perform to the said castle for the bishoprick of Ely. Witness, Roger, bishop of Salisbury; Alexander, bishop of Lincoln; William, earl of Warren; Hugh Bigot, &c. Given at Windresores."*

The said king, by other charters, acquitted them of forty shillings de wardepeny, and pardoned their scutage (or tax of knights' fees) from one hundred pounds to forty pounds.

These exemptions are also in the charters of King Richard the first, to the church of Ely:—

"Richard, by the grace of God, king, &c. We have granted, &c. to God and to the church of St. Æthelred, and to William, [bishop] elect of Ely, and to the monks there serving God, &c., and let the same church be free from the ward of knights in our castle of Norwich, so that the knights of the honour of St. Ætheldred, who used to perform ward in the aforesaid castle, may do it in Ely, at the summons of the bishop of Ely. Also let the same church be acquitted of the twenty-five shillings and five-pence half-penny which were given to the watchman of

* *Hist. Eliens. prædict.* f. 114.

the same castle yearly (*de liberacione sua*) for his livery, out of the land of St. Ætheldred. And let it be acquitted of the forty shillings of wardepeny which were required of their land and their tenants."

This charter is dated at Westminster, the tenth of October, in the first year of his reign. But because the king lost his seal when he was taken prisoner in Germany, he granted another charter under his new seal, dated "apud Rupem Andeliati," the first day of July, the ninth year of his reign.*

The sum of the knights of Suffolk (*query* Norfolk and Suffolk ?) belonging to the bishop of Ely, were twenty-eight and a-half and seven parts of a knight. How many in the whole did belong to him, and the particulars of them, we find in the Red Book of the exchequer, as follows:—

CANTEBRIGGESCIRE.—THE CHARTER OF NIGELLUS, BISHOP OF ELY.

"To his venerable lord Henry, by the grace of God, the illustrious king of England, Nigellus, bishop of Ely, greeting. According to your commandment we have caused to be diligently enquired the services of our knights; and their names and number underwritten, as well of the ancient as of the new feoffment, we transmit to you.

In Cantebrigge [*scire*] *there are of the ancient feoffment*—

Hamo [Peccatum] Pecche, three knights of the fee of Roger Peverell.

Hugh de Doura, three knights of the fee of the same R. Peverell.

Eborardus de Middleton	2 knights
Hen. Picot	1 ....

* *Regist. Sacriste S. Edmundi* [*Bury*] f. 142.

Stephen and Hen. de Scalar ..... 1 knight
Eustace de Manerio ..... 2 ....
Robt. Foliot..... 1 ....
Will. Muschet..... 1 ....
Humf. the son of Geoffrey..... 1 ....
Torold de Hangeton ..... 1 ....
Will. [Dispensator] le Dispenser [4 p.] the fourth part of a knight; (but *query* if not four-fifths of a fee, as I have elsewhere found it to express.)

And of the new feoffment of our demesne—

Paganus de Heringford ..... 1 knight
Petrus [Pincerna] le Boteler ..... ½ ....
Ralph the son of Richard ..... 1 ....
Adam the son of Adam ..... ½ ....

Of the purpresture of the marsh, which was never before made profit of—

Reignald de Niwetone ..... ½ knight
Walter de Panpeworth ..... 1 ....
Jordan de Samford..... 1 ....

And in Norfolk of the ancient feoffment—

Will. de Beskewell..... ½ knight
Steph. de Marisco ..... ½ ....
Hen. de Raia .... 3 ....
The son of Hubert de Munchanesi ..... 1 ....
Will. the son of Generan ..... 1 ....

And of the new feoffment—

Ralph Dapifer ..... 1 knight
Earl Hugh ..... 6 ....
(for which he hath never done service.)

In Suthfolk of the ancient feoffment—

Rob. de Cokfield..... ..... 1 knight

Fulk. de Trussell ..... 1 knight
Hamo [Peccatum] Pecche ..... 3 ....
Geffrey de Drenchston ..... 1 ....
Alan the son of Frodo ..... 1 ....
Luke de Debeham ..... 2 ....
Will. de Norewic ..... 1 ....
Ralph Pirot ..... 2 ....
Rich. the son of Osbert ..... 1 ....
Rob. the son of Hugh ..... 2 ....
Hen. de Glanvill..... 1 ....
Gilb. the son of Frodo ..... 1 ....
Of the fee of Roland the son of Isaac ..... ½ ....
The Earl of Clare ..... 2 ....

And of the new feoffment—

Ralph Dapifer .... 2 knights in Cambriggescire

In Hertfordscire of the ancient feoffment—

Rog. de Valonijs..... ½ knight
Asbertus [Angl.] English ..... 1 ....
Simon the son of Adam ..... 1 ....

In Essex of the ancient feoffment—

Ralph de Bermers ..... 2 knights
Will. [Peregrinus] le Estrange ..... 1 ....
Reignauld de Faubrigge ..... 1 ....
Luke de Tirlinge ..... 1 ....
Simon de Roinges ..... 2 ....

But Earl Alberic hath his service [de novo] lately.

Luke de Berkeshened and Ranulph de Haia, one knight of the fee of Richard de Salconill

Will. de Hanlege, one knight of the same fee, but it is in Sutfolke.

And of the new feoffment—

Earl Alberic .... 2 knights

Of these we are certain. And if we can inquire further, we shall willingly signify to you. Farewell."

The following is a later and more particular account of the knights' fees belonging to the said church, showing in what towns the lands lay.

" Inquisitions, twelfth and thirteenth of King John. Cantebrige and Huntingdon [shires].

KNIGHTS HOLDING OF THE BISHOPRICK OF ELY.

Will. de Scalarijs, one and a-half knight, in Selford, Wrotinge, and Belesham.

Hugh de Scalarijs, one and a-half knight, in Waddon, Overe, and Swafham.

Rob. de Insula, one knight, in Famton and Cotenham, and [4ta] one-quarter in Westwik, which he holds in farm.

Gilbert Peche, four knights and a-quarter, in Ramton, Herleston, Madingley, Lellewarth, Cotenham, and Dainton

Hen. de Essex [4ta] one-quarter, in Ordewik.

Will. Macherut, one knight, in Ditton.

Eustace de Eya, half a knight, in Eye.

Robert, the son of Walter, two knights, in Westleg, Sulburne, and Toueresham.

Tho. de Sanford, half a knight, in Starleg.

Gilbert Aucunechose and Rob. Leir, one-quarter [in] Winelingebert.

Geffrey de Trely, one knight, in Meldeburne.

Rob. Picot, one knight, in Cucye.

Walter de Ely, one knight, in Pampesworthe.

Peter de Beche, three knights, in Middilton.
Will. the son of Simon, half a knight, in Stapilford.
Simon de Insula, one knight, [*in Insula*] in the Isle.
Richard de Cawell, one knight, in Cawell and Hetfelde.

IN ESSEX.

Earl Alberic, four knights in Roinges.
Walter de Famburg, one knight, in Fambrige.
Ralph Gernun, one knight, in Brokesfed.
Ralph de Berners, two knights, in Strethale.
Hen. Pelerin, one knight, in Gatemere.
The Earl of Clare, half a knight, in Brokefeld.
Will. de Haia, half a knight, in Ratendon.

IN HERTFORDE.

Rob. the son of Walter, half a knight, in Hetfeud.
Will. the son of Simon, half a knight, in Hetfeld.
John Bassingburne, one knight, in Hetfeld (which Henry de Alneto held).
John [Pincerna], or Butler of Chaterei, a quarter [of a knight], in Catering.
Aimerus de Baschvill, half a knight.
Rob. de Hulme, one knight.

HUNTINGDON.

Simon de Insula [6 p.] one-sixth part, in Elme.
Richard de Argentein, one knight, in Somersham.
Joceline de Walepole [12 p.], one-twelfth part in Wisbeche, and a half in Walepole.
Steph. de Mariscis, one knight, in Walesuchne.
Eborard de Vernone [6 p.], one-sixth part, in Elme.
Will. de Reinham [3 p.], one-third part, in Chlenswarton.
Will. de Nuncamp [12 p.], one-twelfth part in Wisbeche.
Reignald de Mariscis, half a knight, in Elme.
Adam de Brokne, one knight, in Brokne.

Rich. de Milkham [4ta], one-quarter in Wisbeche and Elme.

Rich. de Litlebur [8], one-eighth, in Wisbech.

NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK.

Will. Mallett, one knight, in Fineberge.

Thomas de Arderne, one knight there.

Robert de Insula, two knights in Nedding.

Wido de Derdun [*query*, Verdun?], half a knight, in Hecham.

Osbert de Wacesham, one knight, in Wacesham.

Hubert Thermod [4tam], one-quarter in Suffolke.

Hugh de Aubervill, six knights, of which Will. Malet and Tho. Arderne hold, and the lady Petronilla half a knight in Berkinge.

Henry de Hulveston, two knights in the liberty of Wederingesete.

Wiscard Ledet, half a knight in Branuden and Lakingvede.

John Marscall, two knights in Okeinge, and one knight in Filneton, near Pulchenam.

Geffrey de Haumbli [4 p.], a quarter, in Herurst.

John de Katena [4 ptem.], a quarter."*

OF THE CASTLE-GUARD RENTS OR SERVICES WHICH WERE PAID BY THE ABBEY OF ST. BENET'S IN THE HULM.

The lands of that abbey were anciently thus chargeable, as appears from this writ (for confirmation of discharge) of King Henry the first, as I take it, which is in the register of Hulm, in the Cotton library:—

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* *Lib. Rub. Scaccarij.*

"Henry, king of England, to Robert Fitz-walter and Ralph Passelewe, greeting. Cause ye the land, and meadows, and [*annonam*] corn, of the abbot of Holme to be in peace from the wardings of the castle of Norwich, and namely, that of Hecham. And let him hold [*omnia sua*] all the things thereof in peace. Witness, Eborard, the son of the earl, at Wodestoke."

King Edward the Confessor, by his charter to the said monastery of St. Bennet, "to have sache and socne, &c., and haverpeny and wardpeny, &c."

King Stephen granted the same; and that all the lands and possessions of that monastery should be free from all secular service.*

Henry the second, the like.†

And I find no other mention of the lands of St. Bennet having been charged to castle-guard service but in that writ concerning Heigham; so that they were very early discharged of it.

And as to the grant of wardpeni, I find the abbey of Bury had several small yearly payments out of their tenements, under the name of warpeni.‡

The knights' fees belonging to this abbey, the fourteenth of Henry the second, appear from the following certificate, then made:—

THE CHARTER OF THE ABBOT OF HULM.

"To his most dear lord Henry, the illustrious king of England, William, by the grace of God, called abbot of Hulm, greeting, &c. and faithful service. These are the knights of our church of ancient feoffment:—

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* *Reg. Hulm. Bib. Cotton Galba, E.* 2. *Ex transcript.* f. 2 a, P.L.N.N.

† *Ib.* f. 3, a. ‡ *Reg. Sacr. Bury.*

Will. de Caletorp hath a knight's fee.

Rich. de Harstested [Irstede, I suppose] a knight's fee.

In the same town, Barth. de Glanvil holds [3 pm.] a third part of a knight's fee.

In the town of Hanigg, Walter de Willington, the half of a knight.

Stephen, [5 pm.] the fifth part of a knight in Redham.

Will. de Stalham, [5 pm.] the fifth part of a knight in Beseton and in Stalham."

Of a new feoffment after the death of king Henry [the first] we have none.*

[KNIGHTS' FEES OF THE ABBEY OF HULM.]

The following is a list of the knights' fees of the said abbey, as it is contained, *inter alia*, in the account of Nicholas de Castello and others, collectors of the aid of forty shillings of every knight's fee in the county of Norfolk, granted to [our] lord the king, to make his eldest son a knight, in the second year of king Edward the third, A.D. 1345.†

IN THE HUNDRED OF TUNSTED.

The prior of Norwich, the prior of Pentney, the prior of Bromeholm, and the prior of Fakenham, tenants of the lands in Wurstede, which were of Robert de Mateby, and other tenants of the lands which were of Robert de Wursted, held in the same town, Dilham, Northwalsham, Skoruston, and Barton, one knight's fee of the abbot

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* *Liber. Rub. Scacc.*

† A plain mistake of the date; in the second year of Edward the third he had no son; 1345 was the nineteenth of Edward the third.—*Anth. Norris.*

of St. Bennet of the Hulm, and the abbot of the king; which sometime were of Reginald, the son of Philip, forty shillings.

John de Leeme and his coparceners [*percenarij sui*] hold in Beeston and Barton, the tenth part of a knight's fee of the aforesaid abbot, and the abbot of the king, which John de Leem and their ancestors sometime held, four shillings.

The said abbot holds in Beston and Barton the tenth part of a knight's fee of the king, which John de Cockfield sometime held, four shillings.

Margaret, which was the wife of John de Gymmingham, with her tenants, John, the son of Hugh Wisse, and other tenants, and purchasers of the tenements which were of Thomas Pecche in Honing, Wytton, Crostweit and Ridlington, Walcot and Happisburgh, hold half a knight's fee of the aforesaid abbot, and the abbot of the king, which John de Gymmingham sometime held, twenty shillings.

The said abbot holds by [his] barony the manors of Horning, Hoveton St. John, Netesherd, and North Walsham, of the king for two and a half knights' fees, with his other tenements in demesne, one hundred shillings.

HUNDRED OF HAPPING.

The said abbot holds his manors of Ludham, Potter-Heigham, and Catfield, with their appurtenances, as parcel of his barony, for undivided of the king *in capite* by the service of two and a half knights' fees, one hundred shillings.

HUNDRED OF WEST FLEGG.

The said abbot holds his manors of Ashbie and Thurne of the king *in capite*, belonging to his barony, which he holds of the king by the service of two and a half knights'

fees, as is above contained, in the Hundred of Tunsted, one hundred shillings.

HUNDRED OF WALSHAM.

The said abbot holds the manor of Bastwick to himself with his other tenements of his barony of the king *in capite;* by how many fees is not known, and it is answered in the Hundred of Tunsted.

HUNDRED OF DEPWADE.

The said abbot holds in Tibenham a manor of the king *in capite;* by what service is not known.

Sir Laurence de Hastings holds in Tibenham half a knight's fee of the said abbot, and he of the king, which John de Hastings sometime held, twenty shillings.

MEMORANDUM.—At Easter term, the seventh of king James, I found, saith A. Harrison, these tenures and others; whereby it appears, that the Bishop of Norwich holds his now bishoprick (which, in the second of Edward the third, was an abbacy) *in capite* by divers knights' fees.

The bishop compounded for all the lands of the bishoprick for the aid to make Prince Henry, eldest son of king James, a knight, for twenty pounds [A.D. 1609.]

Further, it appears in the memorandums of the exchequer.*

Tho. Reede holds the manor of Boysez with its appurtenances in Rollesbye, of John, abbot of St. Bennet of the Hulm, by fealty and the rent of forty-two shillings per annum. And the same abbot holds that manor of [our] lord the king by fealty and eight shillings of yearly rent, and suit of turn in the Hundred of West Flegg twice in the year.†

* *Term. Trin.*, 9 Hen. VIII., *Rot.* 14, *ex parte Rem.*

† *Liber Anth. Harrison, MS.*

These were the knights' fees of the said abbey; but which, how many, or whether all used to pay castle-guard rent to Norwich castle, I shall not assert till further informed.

But note—in the bishop's pleading, the thirtieth of Henry the eighth, to get discharged of the castle-guard rents for the old lands of the bishoprick, he alleged also, that he held then no lordships, manors, lands, &c., chargeable to the ward of the said castle; so that it should seem, the lands late of St. Bennet's abbey, which the bishop then held, (instead of the ancient lands of the bishoprick) were not chargeable with that service.

[OF OTHER SERVICES DUE TO THE CASTLE OF NORWICH]

Besides all these before-mentioned, the lands of some other men were also chargeable with this service, as appears from the following charter or certificate, made the fourteenth of Henry the second, *viz.*—

The Charter of Roger de Keneteswell [of Suffolk.]

"To his most excellent lord Henry, the illustrious king of England, duke of Normandy and Aquitain, earl of Anjou, greeting and faithful service. [*Sciatis*] Know ye that I owe to you the service of ten knights, [whereof] five are of ancient feoffment.

Earl Alberic holds of me the fee of one knight.

Will. de Chaisneto [de Noric.] of Norwich, the fee of one knight.

Geffrey, the son of Baldewin, the fee of one knight.

But that is seised into your hand, and nevertheless they make me perform full service for it to the ward [de Noric] of Norwich.

And Philip de Burgo holds of me the fee of one knight.
And Joceline de Lodnes holds of me the fee of one knight.
And I owe to you for my demesne the service of five knights."*

I judge therefore that all the knights' fees of R. de Keneteswell were obliged to the castle-guard service of Norwich.

MORE OF CASTLE-GUARD RENTS.

Matthew de Porta, of Ipswich, granted to the prior and convent of Norwich three and a half acres of land, which he held of Robert, the son of Walter, the merchant, in the town of Henle [in Suffolk], paying to the scutage of twenty shillings, when it happens, fourpence, and to the ward of Norwich one penny.†

Rog., the son of John de Keteryngham, the twenty-ninth of Edward the first, quit-claimed to Tho. de Begheton and his heirs, all his right in one halfpenny of castle-guard rent, which the same Tho. used to pay always when the said rent happened due for a piece of land in Heneley aforesaid.‡

Will. Bardolf holds of the king *in capite* thirty acres of land in Tylney, as a member of Wyrmgey, by the service of paying seven shillings in every month of the year to the ward of Norwich castle, and by the service of half a mark yearly to the same castle.§

In the account of the collector of the rents and farms of the manors, &c., late of Hugh att Fenne, in Haryngby,

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* *Lib. Rub. Scaccarij.*

† About A.D. 1250. ‡ *Regist. Sacrist. Eccl. Norwic.*, f. 19, 34.

§ *Anno* 4 Edw. I. P.L.N.N.

Tunsted, &c., the first of Henry the seventh, I find there was then paid to the manor of Overhalle, in Hekelyn, two shillings and seven pence, whereof for castle-guard two pence.*

(But, *query* if this was for Norwich castle, or for the castle of Eye?)

Roger le Gros held of John le Porter, of Wodenorton, the sixteenth part of a knight's fee in Hemstede, by the knight's service, *viz.* by the sixteenth part of a fee and two pence three farthings to the ward of Norwich castle, at the end of thirty weeks.†

In the account of the manor of Whetacre, the twelfth of Edward the third:—

Paid castle-guard in part payment, two shillings and sixpence.

Item in gift to Jno. Gerard, bailiff itinerant of the castle of Norwich, four bushels of wheat, by command of the lady, *viz.* the Lady Mawd Baynard.

The manor of Hanworth, belonging to one of the daughters and heirs of Tho. de Brotherton, earl of Norfolk, was held *in capite* by the service of twenty-five shillings per annum, to the ward of the castle of Norwich.‡

Also to the list of the knights' fees lately belonging to the Bishop of Norwich and to the abbey of Bury, made in Henry the eighth's time, after the dissolution of monasteries, there are added several other knights' fees, which were held of the castle of Norwich, as follow, *viz.*—

(And there are certain lands in Feningham (in another account Felmingham) [held] by half a knight's fee [and pay] one shilling and sixpence.)

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* *Archiv. Eccl. Norwic.*

† *Placita de Juratis et Assis. coram Sol. Roff., &c.* 14 Edw. I.

‡ *Eschaet* 35 Edw. III., *secunda pars.*

Robert Garnishe and Richard Yaxley hold their lands by knights' service, and pay * * * *

Walter Hubbert holds his land in Gillingham by a quarter of a knight's fee, ninepence.

Robert Wingfeeld holds the manor of Herpole [*alias* Harepoole] by the service of half a knight's fee [*alias* of one fee] and pays to the ward of the castle of Norwich from thirty weeks to thirty weeks, one shilling and six pence.

Two knights' fees issuing out of the manor of Benhall, and pay, &c., three shillings and fourpence.

One knight's fee issuing out of the manor of Buck-lington, and pay, &c., one shilling and sixpence.

The manor of Bliboroughe is held by knights' service, and pays, &c., tenpence [*alias* one shilling and sixpence.]

Tho. Folstocke holds the manor of Winghall [*alias* Winghill], and pays, &c., six shillings and eightpence.

Will. Jenny holds the manor of Derham by a quarter of a knight's fee, and pays, &c., ninepence.

Anthony Rowse holds one knight's fee, issuing out of certain lands of his in Boxfield [*alias* Laxfield], and pays, &c., three shillings.

John Wingfield and John Layston hold one knight's fee in Badingham, three shillings.

Certain lands in Campston pay, &c., threepence.

Francis Calthorpe holds two knights' fees issuing out of Waybridge [Waybrede] and Wethersdale, six shillings.

The castle-guard for one knight's fee issuing out of Downingworth, three shillings.

Anthony Wingfield holds a quarter of a knight's fee in Laxfield, tenpence.

John Jerningham holds half a knight's fee in Homham [*alias* Horeham], tenpence.

Master —— Knevet holds a quarter of a knight's fee in Stradbroke, tenpence.

Anthony Wingfield holds half a knight's fee in Catsham [*alias* Shatsham] and Bawdsey, tenpence.

Two knights' fees issuing out of lands in Dallinghoo, one shilling and sixpence.

And there are other lands in Bawsey, Alderton, in Belforde, and in Thorneham, which are held by knights' service, and pay, &c., eight shillings.

And there is half a knight's fee in Bacton [*alias* Buckton] in the tenure of John Albaster, and pays, &c., one shilling and sixpence.

John Topfield holds half a knight's fee, issuing out of certain lands in Bacton, one shilling and sixpence.

The manor of Cattesham [*alias* Shattesham] pays, &c., tenpence.

And moreover, there are in the bailiwick of Berne, and in the bailiwick of Thurg, in the bailiwick of Parker, in the bailiwick of Strange, in the bailiwick of Vaux, and in the bailiwick of Eyre, divers manors and lands which pay to the ward of the castle aforesaid.*

Concerning the aforesaid bailiwicks, note that the knights' fees belonging to the honor of Eye, are distributed into seven bailiwicks, called Balliva Chamberlayne, Balliva Vaux, &c., *viz.*—

1. Chamberlayne, containing	26	knights' fees.
2. Vaux	14½	....
3. Straunge	20	....
4. Turgys ... . about	7	....
5. Parker	7½	....
6. Eyr	12	....
7. Berne (in Com. Suff.) about	4	....

* *Liber* P.L.N.N. called *Norff. Tenures*, p. 11, &c., and *Liber ejusd.* called *Lovel's Book.*

All which knights' fees being partly in Norfolk, and partly in Suffolk and Essex, paid to the ward of the castle [of Eye] for each fee, twenty-pence, at the term [due] and suit to the court baron of Eye, from three weeks to three weeks.*

OF OTHER SERVICES DUE TO THE CASTLE OF NORWICH.

In the ancient book, called *Testa de Nevill,* which remaineth in the exchequer, we find as follows, *viz.*—

Roger de Burgo holds [*Burgum*] Burgh Castle, in Ludinglond hundred, in Suffolk, by the service of one balister (or cross-bow man) at his costs for [*ad*] the castle of Norwich, and the land is worth one hundred shillings.

Josceline de Burgo holds [the same] Burgh by the serjeantry of balistery, which is worth twenty-three pounds, whereof the prior of Bromholm holds fifty-four acres, and many other persons hold many other parcels.

[N.B.—This Burgh had been the manor of Stigand the archbishop, but was given with some other lands in this hundred, &c., by the king, to Ralph the balister, who held them when the Conqueror's Doomsday Book was made.]

Ralph de Erleham holds the land of Robert de Worthstede, in Erlham, by the serjeanty of (*faciend.* 40 *diebus balistarium*) performing the part of a balister for forty days in the castle of Norwich. And his land is worth forty shillings.†

Robert Passelew, being a justice itinerant in the * * * year of King Henry the third, several of the grand and petit serjeantys in the county of Norfolk, &c., being aliened by the owners thereof without licence, he seized them into the king's hands, and made Ralph de Erlham make fine to

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* *MS.* P.L.N.N.

† *T. de Nevill, per W. Mariscall, Junior.*

the king for his own serjeanty, and that of Robert de Worthstede, and for all those who held of the same serjeanty, at three pounds per annum. And that Ralph and his heirs should still do the old service of finding one servant with [*una balista*] a cross-bow in Norwich castle in time of war, for forty days, at his own costs.*

Hugh de Hamull granted to Will. de Pynkney thirty solidatæ of land in Erlham, in arable land, in meadows, and in homages, to be held of him and his heirs, paying yearly twelve-pence, and to the ward of the arbalistery of Norwich when it happened, two shillings.

Will. de Pynkeny of Tatersete, granted to Dompnus William, prior, and the convent of Norwich, to the use of the almoner, nine shillings and threepence of yearly rent to be received, *viz.* of John Chese, six shillings for sixty acres of land, which he held of him in Erlham; and of Ralph de Hecham three shillings and one pound of [*cimini*] cummin seed, for twenty acres of land which Katerine le Cunte held of the said Ralph; and of John Bydun threepence, for his, which he held of him (the said W. de Pynkeny) in Erlham, with all reliefs, &c. Also, he granted them, Katherine, the daughter of Stephen West, and William Cnobelhorn, with all their tenements [*et sequelis suis*] and posterity, to have and hold for ever.

Ralph de Erlham granted to the prior and convent of Norwich and their successors, that they should hold of him and his heirs the tenement belonging to the serjeanty of [our] lord the king, which they purchased of Will. de Pynkeny, paying fifteen-pence per annum.

"Edward, by the grace of God, king, &c., to the sheriff of Norfolk. It appears to us, by inspection of the rolls of our exchequer, that Ralph de Erlham made a fine with the

* *Liber Inquisitionum in Scacc. penes Remem. Regis*, P.L.N.N.

lord king Henry our father, for sixty shillings, to be paid to our same father and his heirs at the exchequer yearly, for the alienation which the aforesaid Ralph had made of the serjeanty which sometime was of Robert de Wurtstede, which the same Ralph then held of our said father. So that the tenants of the lands and tenements alienated of the serjeanty aforesaid, should hold them of the aforesaid Ralph and his heirs, by the fine aforesaid. And upon the remonstrance of Geffrey de Erlham, son and heir of the aforesaid Ralph, lately deceased, we have understood that the aforesaid tenants refuse to pay their portions, which they used to pay to the same Ralph, in aid of his payment of the fine aforesaid, &c. We command you, therefore, that you distrain all the said tenants (whose names the said Geffrey will certify to you) by their lands which they hold of the aforesaid serjeanty in your bailiwick, and their chattels being in the same lands, to pay to the same Geffrey the portions which they used to pay to the same Ralph, towards the payment of the fine aforesaid, &c."*

And hence it is, that in the accounts of the *messor* of Erlham, of the eighteenth and twentieth of Edward the second, and the first and fourth of Edward the third (which I have seen), there is yearly charged a payment of sixty shillings to the castle of Norwich, which money was levied of the tenants of the said manor of Erlham.

And in other records as follow:—

John de Erleham, the twentieth of Henry the third, held his land here by the serjeanty of a balister, in defending the said castle for forty days.†

In the fourteenth of Edward the first, before Sal. de Rochester, &c., the king's justices itinerant, the jury say concerning serjeanties, that Ralph de Herlham holds the

* *Regist. Secund. Eccles. Cathed. Norwici*, fol. 56, 57.

† *Liber Inquisit. in Scaccar.*

manor of Herlham, which is worth per annum ten pounds, by the serjeanty of finding in the castle of Norwich one balister in the time of war, for forty days at his own charges. And it is rented at the king's exchequer at sixty shillings per annum. And the sheriff testifies that nothing is in arrear of that rent. And being asked whether it is entire or not, they say it is not; because they say the abbot of Langele and certain others hold parcel of the same serjeanty. And they say that [our] lord the king is in seisin of the aforesaid sixty shillings by the hands of the aforesaid Ralph, and that the same Ralph performs the said service as aforesaid.*

Ralph de Erleham, the twenty-third of Edward the first, holds of the king *in capite*, in Erleham, certain lands and tenements, by the service of finding, in the time of war, in the castle of Norwich, one man [*cum balisterio*] with a cross-bow, for forty days, at his own cost.†

Again, the twenty-ninth of Edward the first, John Erleham held in his demesne, as of fee, five acres of land and four messuages, and twelve acres of land in Erleham of the king *in capite*, by fealty only, and by the service of sixty shillings, to be paid yearly to the castle of Norwich.‡

In the sixth year of king Edward the fourth, Robert Aleyne died, seized of this manor of Erlham, held by castle-guard of Norwich castle.§

I am not certain whether this belongs to our castle, *viz.*

Walter Turssard holds in Baningham by arbalistry, of the gift of king Henry, and it was a member of Causton as his demesne.‖

See more of arbalisters in the account of Norwich, from Doomsday Book.

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* *Placita Coronæ coram. Sal. Roff. et Soc. apud Norwic.* 14 E. I. (*Rot.* 3.)

† P.L.N.N. ‡ P.L.N.N. § *Eschaet.* 6 Edw. IV., m. 11

‖ *Lib. Feod. circa tempus* Hen. III. vel Edw. I.

[OF RENTS DE ALBA FIRMA.]

There were also certain rents paid to the said castle, called *de Alba Firma, viz.* blanch or white farm.

Henry, brother and heir of John Scogan, chaplain, held the manor of East Reynham Haviles of the king *in capite*, as of the king's castle of Norwich, by the service of paying yearly at Easter forty shillings, *de Alba Firma*, to the said castle.*

Afterwards Towneshend in soccage by the same service.†

Nicholas atte Chirche, who married Margaret, the daughter of William, the brother of George de Melham, cousin and heir of the same George, held fifteen acres of land and two of meadow in * * * *, of the king *in capite*, by the serjeanty of paying to the castle of Norwich seventeen-pence per annum.‡

Robert de Clifton, son and heir of Adam de Clifton, held *in capite* the hundred of Frethebrige, by the service of paying five shillings and eightpence *de Alba Firma* to the castle of Norwich, by the hands of the sheriff of Norfolk, for all services.§

Castre Netherhall *alias* Lumpners Manor [in Caster near Norwich] with its appurtenances, was held by Thomas Pettus of the queen, in soccage, by the service and rent of twelve-pence per annum to the castle of Norwich, in the name of *Alba Firma*.‖

But I suspect there may be no more in these rents of *Alba Firma* at first, than only quit-rents due to the king, which were usually paid at the castle.

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* *Fin. Mich.* 20 *R.* 2, *Rot.* 1. *in Scaccar.* P.L.N.N.

† P.L.N.N.

‡ P.L.N.N. *Fines Mich. in Scacc.* 4 Hen. IV.

§ *Id.* 1 Hen. V.

‖ *Eschaet.* 40 Eliz. fol. 326, val. 20lb. P.L.N.N.

[OF PRISES.]

And besides all these, there were certain perquisites called *Prises*, claimed and taken by the sheriff of Norfolk as *custos* of the said castle, as follow:—

Pleas of the crown before Salom. de Rochester and his associate justices itinerant, the fourteenth of Edward I.

The city of Norwich came by twelve jurors. Concerning new customs,* they say, that all the sheriffs, from the time of Will. de Swynesford, sheriff, *viz.* now twenty-four years past, have taken of every boat coming to this city with herrings, twelve herrings; and of every boat laden with [*muluello*] *query*, salt-fish, or cod-fish, or haddock? one whiting and one haddock; and of every cart-load [*virgarum*] of osiers coming to the market of Norwich, one handful; and of every cart-load of earthen pots, one pot; and of every cart-load of [*muluello*] salt-fish coming to the market, one mulvell and a-half; and of every pannier with herrings and [*marleng*] whitings coming to the market, three herrings or three [*marleng*] whitings.

And hereupon came Will. de Rothing, the sheriff, and says, that [our] lord the king is in seisin of these prises as of fee belonging to the castle of [our] said lord the king. And the jury testifies the same.

Before the same justices, the jury of the hundred of South-Erpingham presented, that Will. de Rothing, the sheriff, took of John Sparwe of Caustone, in the fair of St. Mary Magdalen without Norwich, certain fish to the value of twelve shillings, by extortion; and of Alex. Leuyng, fish to the value of six shillings and tenpence, as prise to the castle of Norwich, and paid them nothing for the same.

* It is also in the roll of presentments before said justices under this title, viz. *De Prisis Domini Regis sint in terra, &c. Rot. in Guildhall.*

[OF GIFTS.]

The officers of the castle also received good gifts of the religious houses (and of other persons I suppose) yearly, at Christmas time and sometimes at Easter and Purification. For instance, it appears in the accounts of the chamber of the prior of Norwich, that he paid to the sheriff, the sheriff's lady, and [*castellensibus*] to the officers of the castle, in king Edward the third's time, three or four pounds yearly. The highest sum mentioned to be paid in one year is four pounds fifteen shillings and twopence, and the lowest fifty-five shillings.*

In said accounts, and in the accounts of the times of W. de Kyrkeby and H. de Lakenham, priors before him, the said officers and gifts are sometimes particularized; as, to the sheriff, forty shillings (later accounts twenty shillings) to the sheriff's [*armiger*] gentleman one shilling and sixpence, (later accounts three shillings and fourpence); to the constable six shillings and eightpence; to the constable's clerk one shilling and sixpence; to the clerks in the castle six shillings; to the gate-keeper three shillings; to the [*cursoribus*] messengers of the castle one shilling, perhaps the same mentioned in another account; to the itinerant bailiff of the castle sixpence; to the [*speculatori*] watchman of the castle one shilling. And in the account of the *Magister Cellarij* of said priory, the fourth of Henry the fourth, to the under-sheriff of Norfolk six shillings and eightpence, and to the under-sheriff of Suffolk, also six shillings and eightpence.

Some of these are from the accounts of the prioress of Carrowe.

Also Comp. Carrowe, the twenty-fifth of Edward I. Paid for writing and sealing divers writs at the castle, &c., fourpence.

* *Compot. Camere, W. de Claxton, prioris Norwic. anno ejusd.* 8vo, *usq.* 15*um.*

Comp. Norwich priory, *viz.* Camere W. Claxton, prioris.

Paid to Geffrey Ingelger, for copying of writs in the castle, twelve-pence.

Item—Paid to one of the castle for a certain fine levied, six shillings and eightpence.

Comp. Elemosin. Norwic. 1340, gives to the bailiffs of the castle for delivering of the horses at Wyckilwode at divers times, five shillings and eightpence.

Compot. Magistri Celarij Ecc. Norwic. the thirty-ninth year of Edward the third to the fortieth.

To Roger Clerk, constable, and to other bailiffs and ministers of the castle among themselves, with the chaplain and esquires of the sheriff, twenty-five shillings and ten-pence.

From these accounts, it seems the castle was the place of residence for the under-sheriff of Norfolk, and his clerks and bailiffs.

And this being the principal castle which the king had in the two counties of Norfolk and Suffolk (which were both under one sheriff anciently) it was represented on the seal of office belonging to the high sheriffs, which they used for the return of all writs, &c. Mention is made of this seal in the roll of pleas before the king, the twenty-first of Edward the first, where it is called the "*Sigillum Castri Norwici*," and said to be the *Sigillum vicecomitis comitatus perpetuum et auctoritatum et cognitum per totum comitatum ad returnum Brevium, coram quibuscunque justiciariis Domini Regis faciendum.**

They still use the castle upon the said seal of office; but for some years past have made a new one for every sheriff, adding his particular crest of arms, or the two initial letters of his name.

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* *Firma Burgi*, p. 115, *Ex Trin. Plac. coram Rege* 21 Edw. I. *Rot.* 6, (versus *Ballivos de Dunewico.*)

OF THE CHAPEL.

In the said castle was also a chapel for divine service, and was called the king's free chapel; and the chaplain who officiated there was paid his salary by the king.

The fifty-sixth of Henry the third. Paid to a chaplain in the castle of Norwich, fifty shillings; and paid for repairing of the king's houses in the said castle, * * * * *†

It is called the chapel of St. Nicholas, in a record of the thirteenth of Edward I.‡

This chapel I take to have stood on the north side of the castle; and that the house wherein now is the chamber for the grand jury, and rooms for petty juries, &c., is the same which was the said chapel. The position of the building lying in length from east to west, and the buttresses like those of a church still remaining at the west end of it,—also the situation of the decayed chapel now remaining at Rising Castle, and much at the same distance from it, are inducements for me to think that this was our said chapel of St. Nicholas.

OF THE FRANCHISES IN ANCIENT TIMES BELONGING TO THE INHABITANTS WITHIN THE LIBERTY OF THE CASTLE, WHICH IS CALLED THE CASTLE FEE.

In old time the castle was habitable and of great honor, holden with all the honors and privileges; and was well walled and covered with lead.§

"The castle of Norwyz hath for name Blaunchefloure, of ancient name, whereof no memory runs. And these are the franchises and the usages of the burgesses, the free

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† *Mag. Rot.* 56 Hen. III.

‡ *Plita Jur. et. Assis. pro Johanna de Creke, vid. Essex*, 13 Edw. I. *Rot.* 30.

§ P.L.N.N. *ex MSS. Themilthorp.*

tenants of our lord the king, of the fee of the castle of Norwyz, since the conquest of Willeme the Bastard.

And since the conquest of Willame the Bastard, hath the castle of Norwyz been infranchised with divers franchises, and with divers usages.

And in the said castle there is a chapel, which is called the king's free chapel, because a chaplain sings therein, and ought to sing for the souls of all the kings which have been since the conquest abovesaid.

And the said chapel is moreover infranchised since the time abovesaid; so that, if all England was interdicted, excepting only the king's chapel, the chaplain of the chapel abovesaid might sing his mass by note in the said chapel.

Archbishop, bishop, nor any of their ministers, may not nor ought not to make visitation nor correction upon the fee of the abovesaid castle, because of the franchise of the chapel abovesaid, in the abovesaid castle.

The chaplain of the chapel abovesaid hath power to make correction in spirituals (excepting matrimony and wills) of the tenants of the fee of the castle abovesaid, as fully as any official, or as the Dean of Norwyz hath power in the city abovesaid.

The chapel of the castle abovesaid hath had no sepulture, and therefore the tenants of the fee of the abovesaid castle are assigned, by ancient usage, to the parish churches in the city abovesaid, where they pay their tithes, and make their offerings, and receive their rights of holy church, and there they have their sepulture. And those who die in the castle, as well the prisoners as others, have their sepulture in the churchyard of St. Martyn of the Bailli; if the corpse be not devised to be interred elsewhere.

Round about the castle aforesaid without, there are divers houses from ancient time; and they are called tenants

of the fee of the castle abovesaid, because they pay a certain rent to the sheriff of Norfolk, or to the warden of the castle, whosoever he be, to his farm at the feast of St. Michael, as the foreign tenants of the castle do that which is called waytefe and wardefe at their terms assigned.

The tenements of the fee of the castle abovesaid, may be sold and devised as the tenements of the said city; and also as the other burgesses of the said city are gildable for their tenements which they hold in the said city, in the same manner are the tenants of the fee of the castle abovesaid gildable to our lord the king, for the tenements which they hold upon the fee of the castle abovesaid.

And if [*weyt* alias *veille*] watch ought to be done in the said city in time of war, the abovesaid tenants of the fee of the castle shall perform the watch round about the castle. And if the castle ought to be garrisoned with men-of-arms in time of war, the abovesaid tenants shall be in the place of [*serjaunz*] soldiers, hired at the costs of our lord the king.

The coroner of Norwyz shall perform his office about the dead man in the said castle, and throughout the fee of the castle, as fully as elsewhere in the city, and about all other offices which pertain to the crown.

The residents of the fee of the said castle use, and ought to use, all the usages and the franchises which have been granted by all the kings which have been since the conquest abovesaid, and by the confirmation of our lord the king which now is, to all the citizens of Norwyz, as well without charter as by charter, even as the same king which now is hath commanded and testified to his sheriffs by his writs of grace.

The sheriff of Norfolk, whosoever he be, may let out at rent all the void places in the circuit of the castle [*pour sauver*] to help out his farm, without giving an account at the exchequer, even as the sheriffs have used since the conquest abovesaid.

The sheriff or his constable of the said castle shall hold their courts at their pleasure and view of frankpledge once in the year, to serve the king, and redress all manner of trespasses which shall be done upon the said fee, as fully as the bailiffs of Norwyz do in the said city. And have power, by ancient usage, to plead in their court in the castle all manner of writs which they plead in the city, and likewise with frescheforce, if the plaint be made within forty days.

Baker nor brewer, being of the fee of the castle aforesaid, shall not be amerced but according to the quantity of the trespass, and shall be affeered by their peers.

And if a burgess of the said city purchase rents upon the fee of the castle aforesaid, he shall do the services for his proportion as fully as do the residents thereof themselves. And the residents in like manner, if they purchase land of the said city.

If a trespass be done by one of the fee of the said castle to one of the said city, or the contrary, the franchise shall be demanded on one part, and on the other part. If the plaint be made in the castle, the bailiffs of the said city shall demand their franchise; and if the plaint be made in the said city, the sheriff or the constable shall demand their franchise of the castle. And if an inquest ought to be taken, it shall be taken as well of the men of the fee of the said castle, as of the men of the said city. And the inquest shall pass in the presence of the sheriff or of the constable, and of the bailiffs in the churchyard of St. John of Ber-

strete. And if he of the fee of the castle be amerced, the sheriff shall have the amercements. And if he of the city be amerced, the bailiffs shall have the amercements.

The bailiffs of the abovesaid city of Norwyz, nor any of their ministers, may enter upon the fee of the said castle, for to make summons nor distress upon any of the tenants of the fee of the abovesaid castle, if it be not by the special grace of the king.

When the king's marshalls come to assay the measures of the city of Norwyz, no assay shall be made of the measures of the free tenants of the fee of the castle, but only upon the fee of the castle abovesaid.*

When the [*Pikars*] *Picards*, which were called *Pikechens*, came into England and took the city of Norwich,† and besieged the castle of the said city, then entered the men of the fee of abovesaid into the castle, and saved the castle honorably, to the use of the king which then was; for some of them were good men-of-arms, some good arbalisters, some good archers, and the others forcible in defence.

Wherefore, all those which were then and since infeoffed, have enjoyed their franchises, and ought [so to do] most honorably in all points."‡

The former part of them is also in *Regist. 7 Eccles. Cath. N., viz.* all before the paragraph which begins "The sheriff of Norfolk," &c.

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* It appears by *Fleta*, l. 2, c. 12, that when the king's clerk of the market came to any town, he caused all the weights and measures to be brought together before him, and a jury to be examined. Therefore, this clause means, that the weights and measures should not be carried from the castle fee into the city to be tried, but must be done upon the fee, before a jury of the tenants thereof.

† This refers, as I think, to the taking of the city by the Flemings, in Henry the second's time.

‡ *Liber Cartarum et Placitorum in Gildhall, N.*

[ECCLESIASTICAL IMMUNITIES OF THE FEE.]

The probate of wills relating to the tenements of the fee of the castle were in old time made before the constable of the castle.

I have seen the will of one John de Bliburgh, smith, made A.D. 1304, which was proved in the castle of Norwich, on Friday, being the morrow after Ascension-Day, the thirty-second of Edward the first, before the constable of the castle, in the time of Robert Heyward, sheriff.*

But the ecclesiastical immunities of the castle fee were not without some opposition from the Deans of Norwich in old time: take this instance, of the sixth of Edward the first, *viz.*—

A Petition to the King, by the Dean of Norwich, whereby he claimed the jurisdiction in the fee of the castle of the said city.

"Henry Sampson, dean of Norwich, says and proposes that the deans of the said city had ecclesiastical jurisdiction in the fee of the castle of Norwich, unto the time of the war. [That] Sir Philip Marmyun, constable of the castle of Norwich, occupied that jurisdiction in the time of the war, and made corrections in the aforesaid castle of adulteries and fornications and certain other crimes.

"The sheriffs afterwards said, that [our] lord the king is in possession of the jurisdiction, neither do they permit the dean to make due corrections.

"And the adulterers and fornicators of the city, when they are prosecuted [*impetuntur*], obtain immunity in the fee of the castle, to the danger of their souls and the preju-

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* *Lib. Cart. et Placit. prædict.*

dice of the ecclesiastical liberty, whereupon he prays a remedy."*

It is much to be questioned whether the said dean's allegation was true; because there are many instances, in Mr. Prynne's said volume, of the endeavours of the ecclesiastics to encroach to themselves the jurisdiction of the king's free chapels and places to them pertaining; and it seems this dean's greatest care was really to empty the people's pockets. See more about him under the year 1286.

OF THE DIMINUTION OF THE CIVIL PRIVILEGES OF THE TENANTS OF THE CASTLE-FEE, AND HOW IT WAS BROUGHT UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE CITY.

I have seen a writ of King Edward the first to the sheriff of Norfolk, founded upon a judgment which was given for the citizens, in the exchequer, the twenty-first of Henry the third, *viz.*—

"Edward, king, &c. Because in our court, &c. We command you that you permit the men who are tenants of the fee of our castle of the city of Norwich, or any others whosoever merchandizing in the same city with the citizens, to contribute with them in talliages and other aids, according to the [*considerationem*] judgment aforesaid. Teste R. de Norhwde at Westminster, the first day of October, in the fourth year of our reign."†

Afterwards, *viz.* in the reign of King Edward the third, the citizens petitioned the king to grant them the jurisdiction of the castle-fee, whereupon the following writs of *Ad quod Damnum, &c.* ensued:—

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* *Bund. Petitionum an.* 6 *Edw.* 1., *ap. Prynn's Hist. of Pope's Usurpations,* vol. 3, p. 1221.

† *Per Rotul. Placitorum, de anno Regni Dom. H. Regis* 21.—*Bundel Brevium in Thes. Civitat.*

"Edward, by the grace of God, king of England and France, &c. to John de la Rokele, John de Berneye, and Robert Clere, greeting. The citizens of Norwich have supplicated us, that whereas the men residing upon the fee of the castle of the city of Norwich, may enjoy and use all the liberties granted to the citizens, and nevertheless pretend that they ought to be free from making contributions with the citizens; and to be exempt from the jurisdiction of the baillives; whereby many felons, &c. committing crimes in the city have fled to the said fee, &c. We would therefore grant to them, that all the residents within the aforesaid fee may be under the jurisdiction of the baillives of the city, and that the baillives may have cognizance of all pleas arising within the same fee. And that the men of the fee may contribute with the citizens, and may be talliated by the same citizens in all taxes to be granted to us and our heirs. Also, that the said baillives may inquire and do justice concerning all transgressions, felonies, &c. from henceforth happening within the said fee, according to the law and custom of the city. And may collect the rent of all the tenants of the same fee, and may answer the same by their own hands to us at our exchequer, as the sheriffs have been used to answer it. We, being willing to be certified whether it would be to the damage of us or of others, or harm to our castle, if we should consent to the supplication of the citizens, &c. do assign you to inquire by the oath of honest and lawful men of the county of Norfolk, by whom, &c. we may fully know the truth of all and singular the premises, &c. Given at Westminster, the twelfth of May, in the year of our reign of England nineteen, and of France six."

Upon this the following inquest was taken:—

"An inquest taken at Thorp *Episcopi*, on the Saturday

next after the feast of the Holy Trinity, in the year of the reign of King Edward the third, of England the nineteenth, and of France the sixth, before John de Berneye and Robert Clere, according to the king's commission, by John Curzoun, *chevalier* (or knight), Hugh Peverel, *chevalier*, Robert Bucskyn, *chevalier*, Rog. Bretoun, Tho. de Bodham, Tho. de Begeville, Will. Bretoun, Clem. de Plumstede, John de Buxton, James Rightwys, John le Cally de Aylesham, and Rob. de Yelverton, jurors, who say upon their oath, that it is not to the damage nor prejudice of [our] lord the king, nor of others, nor to the harm of the castle of Norwich, although [our] lord the king should grant to the citizens of Norwich, that all the men residing within the fee of the castle of the city aforesaid, who now are or for the time shall be, may be under the jurisdiction of the baillives of the said city of Norwich, who for the time shall be. And that if the king should grant to the baillives to have the cognizances of all pleas by the king's writs arising within the said fee, [our] lord the king would lose the amercements, &c. arising of the same pleas, which are worth by year, according to the true value of them, twelvepence. And they say, that it is not to the damage, &c. although the men of the fee should contribute in aids and contributions with the citizens, nor that they should be talliated by the citizens in taxes to be granted to the king and his heirs. Also, that it is not to the damage, &c. that the baillives may inquire, &c. concerning all the transgressions, &c. henceforth happening within the fee. They say also, that it is not to the damage, &c. although the citizens might levy the rents of all the tenants of the fee, &c. They say also, that the sum of the rents of the aforesaid tenants extends per annum to twenty-six shillings and tenpence; and that the profits of the court

of the said tenants extend, by estimation, to nine shillings per annum. They say also, that there is a certain leet held yearly of the said tenants, which extends by estimation, to six shillings and eightpence; and that the sheriffs for the time being have used to take the abovesaid profits of such courts and leets, and not [*alia*] more. And they say, that it is not to the damage, &c. if [our] lord the king should grant to the said citizens and their successors, that the baillives of the city may have the return of all writs, summons, &c. of tenures and pleas touching the residents in the same fee, as the sheriffs have hitherto had.—*In cujus rei testimonium sigilla sua apposuerunt.*"

Which inquest being returned into the king's chancery at Westminster, Monsieur Johan Howard, then sheriff of Norfolk, to hinder [the effect of] the said inquest, sent to the king and his council a bill, in these words following:—

"To our lord the king, and to his council, Johan Howard, sheriff of Norfolk, sheweth: That, whereas our said lord the king is lord of the castle of Norwyz, and he and his progenitors, kings of England, have been, from time whereof there is no memory, as in right of the crown, to which he hath a place annexed, and from all time hath so been, which is called *Castellond*, joining to the said castle. The which castle and place also are, and from all time have been, out of the jurisdiction of the citizens of the said city, of which castle and place our said lord also hath his *free chapel*, where no ordinary ought to concern himself, excepting only in testaments and matrimony, but the chaplain of the said chapel, who there sings for our said lord, and for the souls of his progenitors. And upon the said place are many residents, who every one pay a certain farm to the sheriff, in the king's right of his crown, and wherewith the sheriff is charged in his account.

And also, every one is charged to perform a certain [*garde*] warde in a certain place of the said castle, where need shall be; and therefore they were the first inhabited, and exempted from the citizens of the said city. And also the sheriff, in the right of our lord the king and of his crown, hath also there a court of the said residents from three weeks to three weeks, and view of Frankpledge, wherewith he is charged in his account.

"And the said residents are taxable to all aids to our said lord, and agistable to arms by themselves, and not among the said citizens.

"And within the said place is a house which is called the *Shirehouse*, where the [county-court] the assizes, and commonly all other pleas to be held in the said county, are held, and have been of long time, where the baillives, and men of the country who are debtors to the king, commonly repair to such sessions, whereby the sheriff can distrain and attach them there for the king's debt, better than in any other place within his bailiwick, without commanding the baillives of the city to do it, as he is obliged to do in other places within the city.

"And the said citizens, by their untrue suggestions, cause our said lord to understand that it will not be to his damage, nor to the damage of others, to grant them the said place to be annexed to their said city, and within their jurisdiction. Upon which a commission is granted to them to certain men, whereof some are of their fee and their council, to inquire hereof, and an inquest is taken by men not apprized nor informed of the king's right, and impannelled by a baillive who is one of the said citizens. Wherefore, may it please our said lord the king and his council to have regard to his right, and to preserve the right of his crown and the estate of his said poor residents,

so that this thing may not be granted to the said citizens until it be fully inquired, by commandment given to the eschaetor, or to some of the king's serjeants, or to some other knowing person who is not of the fee nor council of the said citizens, in presence of the eschaetor, and others who will and know the right of the king."

Upon this bill was issued a new writ of *ad quod damnum*, at the suit of the said sheriff, to Monsieur John Bardolf de Wyrmegeye, Monsieur Will. Carbonel, and Rog. de Dersingham.

"Edward, by the grace of God, king, &c. to John Bardolf, &c. The citizens of Norwich have supplicated us, &c. as in the former writ.

"Given at Westm., the sixteenth of June, in the year aforesaid."

Upon which an inquest was again taken, *viz.*—

"An inquest taken at Newton, near Wyghtlingham, on the Monday next after the feast of the Translation of St. Thomas the Martyr, in the nineteenth year of the reign of King Edward the third, before John Bardolf de Wyrmegey, Will. Carbonel, and Rog. de Dersingham, justices of our lord the king, by the oath of Thomas de Byntre, Richard Hakon, Roger Est, Reginald de Refham, John de Eggemere, Simon atte Haghe, John de Helebek, Rob. Hereward, John in the Wylwes, John de Somerton, Tho. de Essex, and John atte Lee, who say upon their oath, that although [our] lord the king should grant to the citizens of Norwich and their successors, that the men residing within the fee of the castle of the city aforesaid may be always under the jurisdiction of the baillives of Norwich, it is not to the damage of the king, &c. nor to the harm of the castle of Norwich, nor to the damage or prejudice of any good man, but rather to the benefit; because

the malefactors and disturbers of the king's peace flee into the said fee, there lurk, and very often escape without punishment. Also they say, that if [our] lord the king should grant the citizens that the baillives of Norwich may have the cognizances of pleas, &c. the king would lose twelvepence. *Item.* That it is not to the damage, &c. if the men of the fee should contribute with the citizens; so, nevertheless, that the same men may enjoy the liberties of citizens; nor that the said men should be talliated by the same citizens in all aids to the king and his heirs; nor that the baillives of the city, concerning all transgressions, &c. should inquire, &c. So, nevertheless, that the house which is called *le Shirehous* may be exempted from the jurisdiction of the baillives of the city.

"Nor is it to the damage, &c. although the citizens should collect the rents of the tenants of the fee by the baillives, and answer it, &c. as the sheriffs have used to do; so that the sheriff and constable of the said castle for the time being may be discharged from that rent.

"Also, they say that the sum of the rent of the aforesaid tenants extends, per annum, to twenty-six shillings and tenpence, the profits of the court to nine shillings, the leet six shillings and eightpence.

"And they say that the sheriffs have hitherto had the executions of all writs and summons, &c. touching the said residents. And they say that it is not to the damage, &c. although the king should grant to the said citizens and their successors that the baillives of the city for the time being should have the return of all writs, &c.

"And they say that the sheriff for the time being has hitherto used to receive the abovesaid profits. In testimony of which thing the aforesaid jurors have affixed their seals."*

* *Liber* 1. *Introit. Civium.*, fol. 8.

And hereupon the king granted to the citizens the said jurisdiction, &c. by his charter, which see under the year 1345; but it continued to be a separate division, and to have a leet of itself; for it was not made a part of the other leets, or to be within the jurisdiction or cognizance of any of the inquests of the four wards of the city, who are sworn at the quarter sessions of the city, to inquire into and present offences in the said wards.

OF THE SHIRE-HOUSE.

The shire-house, where the assizes for the county of Norfolk, the sessions and county courts are held, and at which elections of the knights of the shire for parliament, and of the coroners for the said county, &c., which now stands on the castle-hill, adjoining to the north side of the castle, is not the shire-house meant in the sheriff's bill and inquest just now recited; for that which now is, was built in Queen Elizabeth's time, before which, for some ages, the shire-house stood upon the hill which is southward from the castle, beyond the second ditch, near the lane called the Golden-ball-lane, *viz.* towards the west, between that and Rochester's-lane.

The greatest part of that hill which is now known by the name of Garter-hill, whereon the said old shire-house stood, seems then to have been inclosed, having a ditch then also on the south-west side of it, near the houses where the hollow road is now; and in deeds of Edward the first's time, as in the fifteenth, twenty-second, and thirty-third years of his reign, is therefore called *Curia Comitatus*, and the *fossatum*, or ditch of it, is mentioned in these deeds. And in later writings, as of Edward the third's time, we find it by the name of *Schirhousyerd*, and in

another of the second of Henry the fourth, *Curia vocata Shirhousyerd.* Also the common way leading *versus Comitatum*, that is, to or towards the *Shirehouse*, is mentioned the thirty-fourth of Edward the first.

King Edward the second, by his charter to the citizens, in the nineteenth of his reign, granted that his justices, ministers, &c. should hold their sessions for assizes, juries, inquests, &c. in no place within the city, but only in the aforesaid shire-house.*

I have been informed by one Mrs. Burrows, an aged woman, and old inhabitant of St. John's Timberhill parish, that, when she was a girl, there was part of an old stone house standing on the said Garter-hill, (so called from its being used formerly for warping of garters there), near the Golden-ball-lane, *viz.* almost upon that spot of ground on which the cistern was built a few years ago (but stood not long) for the water-works, but it was nearer to the said lane. And that she particularly remembered the windows of it to have had iron bars in them. This has been since confirmed to me by Justice Thacker,† who remembers the walls of the house there standing, and the iron bars in the windows, so that he took it to have been a prison. This I verily believe to have been the old shire-house.‡

Her father kept the county gaol for several years, and dwelt in the house called the Golden-ball, where the better sort of prisoners who had money, lodged then, and not in the castle (as had before been used in the house which is on the other side of the said lane, opposite to the Ball, which was therefore called the old gaol.)

Further, I find that (after the new shire-house was

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* *Pat.* 19, *Edw.* II., *pt.* 1. [† Mayor in 1705.]

‡ *Query*—Nevertheless, if not, one of the houses next the lane.

built on the castle-hill), Queen Elizabeth, at the petition of Henry, Lord Wentworth, granted to Theophilus Adams and Thomas Butler, of London, gentlemen, a void parcel of land, and a ruinous cottage or messuage thereupon built, commonly called the *Old Shere-house*, in the city of Norwich.*

And at an assembly, on Friday the tenth of June, the first of King James the first, Thomas Worsley desiring some enlargement of a piece of ground on the backside of the *Shere-house*, which he now holdeth by three shillings and fourpence rent, it was ordered, that the chamberlain, &c. take a view thereof, and allot him so much more ground as they think fit, he paying a reasonable rent. And they granted to him twenty feet of the waste ground on the north side of the shire-house for twenty-one years.

In 1638, I find one Raven, an alehouse-keeper, in the shire-house.†

Further, it is to be noted that all the ground of the castle fee being granted to the city as aforesaid, they made their profit of it‡ by giving leave for erecting booths thereon in the times of assizes, sessions, &c.§

So that in the chamberlain's accompts of the city, frequent mention of these booths is to be found. Take a few instances:—

Thirty-fifth of Henry the sixth. "*Item.*—Received for the farm of the [*Opellæ*] booths at the shire-house, in the time of the sessions, three shillings and sixpence."

The fourth of Henry the seventh. "Received of Edm. Cullyng, for licence of setting [*Opell.*] booths upon

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* *Teste*, 2nd August, *Pat.* 27 *Eliz. pars* 4*ta.*

† *Car.* 18th April, 1638.

‡ The herbage or feeding of the grass there belongs to the city.

§ *Rot. Cong. ven. ante Mich.* 10 Hen. IV.

the soil of commonalty of Norwich, near the house called the *Shirehouse* [*tempore session. et com.*] in the time of sessions and county-courts there held, for this year, two shillings and fourpence."

A. D. 1541. "BOTHES. *Item.*—Received of Rob. Brown, jaylour of the castyll, for that non other person but he shall set any vytallyng-bothes within the compass of the castyll dyche, at any tyme of assyse and sessyons, for this yere, four shillings, sc. ageynst the shere-hous and castyll-gate."*

At a court of mayoralty, the seventh of July, 1655, it was agreed, that Fran. Sheppard and Will. Playford (and no other) shall have liberty of pitching and building of booths in and about the castle dikes and hills within the county of this city, during the time of these next assizes, as formerly used. And they to pay for the same thirty shillings to the chamberlain, within one week after the assizes ended.

The like agreement was made the second of July, 1656, and other years.

This hill has sometimes been used for the place where the great guns of the city were fired upon days of public rejoicing, as coronation, &c. Sometimes Mushold-hill, formerly Tombland, but generally the castle hill, is the place for that purpose.

At a court of mayoralty, the twelfth of June, 1678, ordered, that the cannoneer shall have thirty pounds of powder for the firing of the great guns upon the Guild-even, morning and day, being the usual allowance. And they are to be fired in the castle dikes, either upon the bank, by the meadow, or upon the hill where the old shire-house stood.

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* *Compot. Camerar. de annis prædictis.*

And once this hill was (or at least, was designed to be) the place of a windmill; for at an assembly, the twenty-fourth of Elizabeth, the chamberlain and his councillors, &c. were appointed to view a new plot of ground on the castle hill, near the shire-house, which Mr. Tho. Sotherton, alderman, desireth to have for the setting of a windmill, and to confer with him for the price, and with the miller of the new mills for the taking of the same, in ferme of the city; if the city shall buy it of Mr. Sotherton. And to certify at the next assembly what they shall have done therein. But I suppose it was thought it might be prejudicial to the new mills, and therefore never performed; for I find no more about it.

OF THE DITCHES OF THE CASTLE.

The ditches, which were made about the castle of Norwich for the defence of it, were anciently very large and deep, as may still be seen by the ditch which is on the east and south sides of the hill, notwithstanding many thousands of cart-loads of rubbish have been thrown into it, whereby it is there much narrower and shallower than in former times; and on the other sides, almost filled up. Alex. Nevill observes, that part of the outward ditch was filled up in his time; but there was so little filled then, that Mr. Cambden, after that, describes the castle *to be seated on a very high hill, which is encompassed with a ditch* [*immanis altitudinis*] *of a prodigious depth, so that it seems in former ages to have been impregnable.* Thus he.

Formerly, indeed, the ditches of the castle were preserved with great care from being filled up (as were also those of the city); and I have met with several instances thereof: take a few:—

At an assembly, on the Monday before the feast of the nativity of B. Mary, the fifteenth of Edward the fourth, ordained, that Edmund Reade, on this side Michaelmas next, shall carry away sixty cart-loads of the muck out of the ditch of the castle, by him there injuriously [*accumulat.*] heaped up; and the residue by him there laid, to be emptied on this side the feast of All Saints next; under the penalty of twenty marks.

In the chamberlain's accompt, the fifth of Henry the seventh. Received of diverse persons, in all, forty-four shillings. And it is to be noted, that this sum of forty-four shillings was collected by agreement of the aforesaid persons, because they had, in times past, caused all the muck and filth of their houses to be carried and cast into the ditch of the castle, until it was forbidden by Hen. Wyot, constable of the castle of [our] lord the king, &c.

"Charges and expences done for amending the ditches of the castle, for carrying out the muck there by command of R. Gardener, mayor; to avoid the great displeasure of the king had against this city, by reason of the aforesaid ditches so filled with muck by the citizens. *Imprimis.* Paid to the said Hen. Wyot, the constable, which was given him in [*regardo*] regard that he should not inform thereof, to the damage or grievance of the city, forty shillings. *Item.*—Paid to the *didalmen* and other labourers, for carrying the muck out of the said ditch, with [*sine-fectorio*] a wheelbarrow, or dung-cart, unto the [*vicum*] lane opposite to the messuage of John Carleton, twenty-eight shillings and sixpence."*

At an assembly, the eleventh of April, the twentieth of Henry the seventh, ordained, that if any inhabitant within this city shall henceforth be taken in carrying muck,

* *Comp. Camer.* 5 Hen. VII.

or other filthy things, and putting them in the ditches of the castle, or in the ditches without the walls of the city, or in any lane used for people to walk in; every one so taken shall forfeit for every time fourpence.

And other assemblies, the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh of Henry the eighth, ordained, *viz.* the twenty-sixth of Henry the eighth: that no person shall lay or cause to be laid in or upon the castle-dike, meadow, Cokey-lane, or any brent ground within the city, any colder, &c., under pain of two shillings for every offence. The twenty-seventh of Henry the eighth: that no person shall keep or put to feed any mare, sheep, or lamb upon the castle ditches or meadow, nor any common, green, or lane within the city: pain, fortypence for every mare, and twelvepence for every sheep or lamb so taken.

At a court of mayoralty, the fifteenth of June, the third of Edward the sixth, Sir John Godsalve, knight, came and declared, that, whereas he is lieutenant to the king's majesty of his castle at Norwich, he informeth the court that divers inhabitants near the said castle have voyed and cast into the dikes, dung, &c., to the hindrance of the defence of the same; and desireth reformation. And he was answered, that Mr. Mayor hath had a vigilant eye to the premises, but as yet non offenders can be proved, &c. And thereupon, the said Sir John Godsalve saith, that he would get licence to build one of the towers, and then watch the said offenders, and that they should come at their peril.

This was just before the breaking out of Kett's rebellion.

At a court of mayoralty, the sixteenth of July, the twelfth of James the first, two labourers ordered to carry away all such muck as they have cast in or near the castle

dikes, and that this week, upon pain of whipping; never to offend in the like.

A.D. 1633. Mr. Robert Tompson, Dr. Burnett, and sixteen other persons, were questioned before the magistrates for having carried soil, colder, and muck into the castle dikes, and for digging of the soil there.*

At an assembly, the twenty-fifth of February, 1651, a committee was ordered to view the way on the north and west side of the castle dikes, and consider whether the same be fit to be made a cart-way or not. And how the laying of muck in the dikes may be prevented (except where directed by the court of aldermen), and they punished that have offended therein.

But no such way was made then; for, in my remembrance, the ditch on those sides was very large and deep, and the way next the houses too narrow for a cart; and, in the memory of ancient men, so narrow, that in one place only a board or plank was laid for a foot-passage (saith Justice Thacker), though for about twenty years past it has been otherwise. Houses have been built on it on the west side, and besides, before them and all round, now the way is large enough for carts.

FURTHER OF THE SAME, AND OF A POUND THERE.

At a court of mayoralty, the fifth of September, 1655, James Hardingham, John Rochester, Thomas Dussinge, and John Buston are appointed surveyors of the *Castle and Fee*, with James Pomfret and Thomas Balles, to survey the dikes and grounds about the same, and apprehend such poor people as do dig in the hills there, and lay muck

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* *Cur.* 16th November, 1633.

where it is inconvenient; and to bring them before the mayor, or some other justice of the peace of the city, to be punished. And to present such as lay timber, or feed any cattle upon the same ground. And they of the fee have liberty to set up a *pound*, for the impounding of such cattle as are wrongfully kept there: so they do it at their own charge.

Also, at a court of mayoralty, the twenty-sixth of November, 1679, the inhabitants of the *Castle and Fee* have liberty to erect a *pound* in such convenient place as the chief of them think most fit. And the sheriffs are to have the profit thereof; and the pounder to dwell upon the fee. The charge of making and keeping the same in repair to be by the said inhabitants.

OF THE MARKET THERE.

The south-west part of the hills and grounds lying without the ditch of the castle is used for a market-place for cattle every Saturday, as for neat cattle, cows and calves, swine, &c. And so is the void ground which lies near it (but out of the fee of the castle), called hog-hill.

Also the plain which lies on the east side of the castle-hill, called the castle-meadows, is used for a market at Good-Friday, and Whitsun, and Trinity fair-days, for the black cattle, or steers, which are yearly brought from Scotland and the north parts of England, to be here sold to graziers, &c., and fattened for beef.

At an assembly, the third of June, the fourteenth of James the first, the committees touching the market at Timber-hill [means here the place now called hog-hill, as I think], do certify that they think fit the same should be made according to the plat [*viz.* in pounds for stowing

cattle in as it seems], and that Thomas Thurston, the carpenter, demandeth for the same thirty pounds. This assembly think fit not to consent thereto, but do decree that the market for cattle shall from henceforth be kept in the *castle dykes*, and not elsewhere.

OF THE CUSTODES, OR WARDENS AND CONSTABLES OF THE CASTLE.

The castle of Norwich was from time to time committed by the king to a *custos*, or warden, and to a constable under him, who were to take care that it should be safely kept to the king's use, and to see to the repairing of it when necessary.

And these were the custodes and constables of it that I have met with:—

Ralph, earl of the East Angles, who rebelled against the Conqueror, seems to have had the custody of this castle under him. After which,* I do not find that any king thought it convenient to make an earl of Norfolk custos of it, saving that the young rebellious King Henry, the son of King Henry the second, the better to attach Hugh Bigot to his party, promised the custody of our said castle to him and his heirs for ever, A.D. 1173. But this never took effect.

In old time, such grants of principal castles, with the sheriffalty of counties, were often made by the kings: as King Henry the first granted or confirmed to Walter de Beauchamp the castle of Worcester and sheriffalty of Worcestershire, which had been held by Urso de Abitot hereditarily in the time of King William the Conqueror, whose daughter and heir, Emeline, this Walter

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* But *query*, if for the Bigods?

married. King Stephen dispossessed his son, William de Beauchamp, of the said castle, which hereditarily descended to him from Urso aforesaid; but Maud, the empress, restored it to him, to hold of her and her heirs *in capite*, together with the sheriffalty of that county, &c. Walter, his grandson, the first of Henry the third, had restitution of his castle of Worcester and sheriffalty of the county, to enjoy till the king should be fourteen years of age, &c. Thomas Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, the eighteenth of Edward the third, had a grant of the sheriffalty of Warwick and Leicester shires for the term of his life.*

In like manner, King William Rufus bestowed on Richard de Redvers, earl of Devon, the castle of Exeter, with the sheriffalty of the county of Devon, which his father had before, paying a certain annual rent.†

But King William the Conqueror, in the ninth year of his reign, made Hubert, the second son of Hubert de Rya, governor of it.‡

And the constableship of the same castle was granted by H. de Rya to Hubert [*query*, Richard?] de Bavent and his heirs, as we find in a petition to the parliament, the fourth of Edward the third.§

It seems, from the pipe-roll of the sixteenth of King John, that Robert Fitz-Roger, of Clavering, had lately the custody of it. For thus we find in the record, *viz.* Margaret, who was the wife of Robert Fitz-Roger, [gave] one thousand marks to have seisin of her whole inheritance, whereof the aforesaid Robert was seised the day whereon he died.

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* *Dugd. Bar.* 1, pp. 225, 226, 232. † *Id.* 1, p. 254.

‡ P.L.N.N. *Dugd. Bar.* 1, p. 109, (but does not mention the year, and refers to *Monast. Ang.* ii., p. 892, &c.)

§ *Pet. Parl.* 4 Edw. III. *apud Wynton ante Festum S. Greg. Pap. No.* 92. P.L.N.N.

So, nevertheless, that she shall stand to the law, if any person will implead her; and *reserving in the king's hand the castle of Norwiz, so long as it shall please the king:* and thus also, that she may have right in the king's court concerning her inheritance, which her father had on the day when he died,* &c.

This Margaret (or, as she is elsewhere called, Margery) was the daughter and heir of William de Kaysneto (or Cheyney) lord of the barony of Horsford, which William, being many years sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, in Henry the second's time, if not in King Stephen's, was often surnamed (*Vicecomes* or) the sheriff; and having, probably, on that account, resided much at Norwich (in the castle I suppose), he was otherwise called William de Norwico. His brother John was sheriff, 1137; whom I take to be the same with *John de Norwico,*† one of the witnesses to the charter of agreement made between King Stephen and D. Henry, A.D. 1153; and their father, who was Robert Fitz-Walter (founder of St. Faith's abbey, at Horsham, near Norwich), had also been sheriff of these counties in King Henry the first's time.

And from the said surname *de Norwico,* but more clearly from the clause about our castle in the said roll, the custody of it seems to have been granted by King Henry the first or second to this family.

And in the pipe-roll of the following year, John Mareshall and John [*query,* Robert?] Fitz-Roger (*query,* ancestor of the family *de Thorp?*) are mentioned to be *custodes,*‡ made governors of the castles of Norwich and Orford.§

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* *May. Rot.* 16 *Johan. Rot.* 16, *Norf. et Suff. ap. Madox Excheq.* p. 340.

† There appears to be some error here, as the family of De Norwico, or De Norwich, were a junior branch of the Bigods.

‡ *Mag. Rot.* 17 *Joh. Norff. et Suff.* P.L.N.N and *Dugd.*

§ *Dugd. Bar.* v. 1, p. 107, *ex Pat.* 17 and p. 599, *Joh. m.* 22.

The custody of the said castle was committed by King John to John, Lord Marshall, and John Fitz-Robert, sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, jointly.*

The said John Fitz-Robert was sheriff in the sixteenth and seventeenth of King John, and in the seventeenth year John Mareschal was associated with him in the sheriffalty.†

The same year, (the said Fitz-Roger adhering to the baron's party against the king) by the king's patent, the great Hubert de Burgo was constituted governor, A.D. 1215, the nineteenth of July.‡

The same year, Thomas de Burgo, brother of Hubert, was [*castellanus*] governor, but deserted it upon the approach of the army of Lewis.

But although he fled in hope to escape, he was taken prisoner and put under safe keeping. His brother Hubert defended valiantly the castle of Dover. Yet Lewis had good hope that, through the means of Thomas de Burgh, he should persuade him to yield it, and assayed to obtain his purpose by threatening to hang Thomas before his brother's face, if he would not yield the sooner; but in vain. Then he sought to win him by large offers of money, and, lastly, threatened to put all within it to death. But such was the singular constancy of Hubert, that he would not be terrified nor corrupted, but maintained the castle against all the fierce assaults of the Frenchmen.§

And William de Bellomonte, marshal of the Lord Lewis, held the castle of Norwich for him.¶

In the twenty-fifth of Henry the third, it was ordered in the exchequer that the sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk

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* *Peerage of England*, ii., *part* 2, p. 221.

† *Dugd. Bar.* 1, p. 599, *ex. Pat.* 17 *John m.* 22.

‡ *Dugd. Pat.* 17 *Joh. m.* 18. *Dugd. Bar.* v. 4, p. 693.

§ *Hollingshed*, &c. ¶ *Pat.* 1 Hen. III. *m.* 6.

should have the custody of this castle and that of Orford, and at his own charges,* &c.

And the year after, the said counties and custody were accordingly committed to Hamon Passelew, during the king's pleasure, under the same form and in the same manner in which Henry de Neketon (late sheriff) had them.†

The forty-fifth of Henry the third.—Philip Marmion, of Tamworth castle, was made sheriff and *custos* of Norwich castle and that of Orford.‡

And thus it continued many years. And agreeably hereto, I have seen the copy of a writ of *Dedimus potestatem*, of the eleventh of Edward the second, to Robert de Langele, prior of Norwich, of the following tenor:—

"Edward, by the grace of God, king of England, lord of Ireland, &c., to our beloved in Christ, the prior of the church of the Holy Trinity of Norwich, greeting. Whereas we have committed to our beloved and faithful John Howard, the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, and our *castle of Norwich*, with their appurtenances, to keep so long as it shall please us, even as, &c. We have given you power of receiving the oath of the same John, according to the tenor of a schedule inclosed, &c. And command that you certify us hereof, under your seal without delay. Witness myself at Ware, the thirteenth of October, in the eleventh year of our reign."

Dugdale, in his *Baronage*, has observed that he was this year made governor.§

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* *Communia*, Mich. 25 Hen. III. † Mich. 26 Hen. III. *Com. in Scacc.*

‡ *Pat.* 45 Hen. III. *m.* 3 *et* 8, *apud Dugd. Bar.* 1, p. 376.

§ *Dugd. Bar.* ii., p. 265, *ex Rot. Fin.* 4 Edw. II. *Regist.* 9, *Eccles. Cath. Norw. No.* 107.

The fifth of Edward the third, Roger de Kerdeston was made sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, and governor of the castle at Norwich.*

OF THE CONSTABLES IN PARTICULAR.

Henry the third.—John de Vallibus, or Vaux, was constable, the forty-eighth of Henry the third and fifty-first of Henry the third.†

Edward the first.—Peter de Wytefeld, constable; Thomas Spigurnell, constable.‡

Edward the second.—Magister William de Ruddham, constable, the sixteenth of Edward the second.§

Edward the third.—Roger Clerk, constable, the thirty-ninth of Edward the third.¶

Richard the second.—The custody of the castle of Norwich, with the king's gaol there, was granted to John de Gray for life, the fifth of Richard the second.‖

Henry the fourth.—John Reymes, constable, the tenth of Henry the fourth.**

Henry the fifth.

Henry the sixth.††

Edward the fourth.—Sir John Howard, knight, constituted constable, the fourth of Edward the fourth.‡‡

Henry the seventh.—William Willoughby, the first of

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* *Dugd. Bar.* ii., p. 113, *Rot. Fin.* 5 Edw. III. *m.* 14.

† *Pat.* 48 Hen. III. *m.* 12, *D. Rymer.* v. 1, p. 792, and *Pat.* 51 Hen. III. *m.* 21, (*Dugd. Bar.* 1, p. 526, Governor.)

‡ *Rot. extract Inquisic. Hundr. de Humilyerd,* 3 Edw. I. *reman. in Cur. Recept. Scaccar.*

§ *Arch. E. N.* ¶ *Arch. E. N.* ‖ *Claus.* 5 Rich. II. *m.* 35.

** *Rot. Cong.* and *Comp. Thes.* 10 Hen. IV.

†† *Pat.* 1 Edw. IV. p. 1, *m.* 16. *Dugd. Bar.* ii., p. 265.

‡‡ P.L.N.N. *ex M.S. Compot. J. H. mil.*

Henry the seventh, had a grant of the office of constable and keeper of Norwich castle for life, with the fees as in the times of Edward the third and Richard the second, dated the fifth of March.*

Henry Wyot, the next year, had a grant of the constableship of the castle of Norwich, and custody thereof, and of the gaol there for life, with the fees belonging, dated the fourth of September.† H. Wyot was constable the fifth of Henry the seventh.‡

Henry the eighth.—Thomas Bullen, one of the knights for the king's body (afterwards earl of Wiltshire) was, in the third of Henry the eighth, constituted governor of this castle, jointly with Sir Henry Wyot, knight, master of the king's jewel-house. And, the seventh of Henry the eighth, was made constable thereof alone.§

Edward the sixth.—Sir John Godsalve, knight, was lieutenant of the castle, the third of Edward the sixth, as is before mentioned.

Queen Mary.

Elizabeth.

James the first.—Robert Moore, the fourth of James the first, had a grant of the office of keeper of this castle, with usual fees, for term of life.¶

FEES OF THE CUSTOS AND CONSTABLE.

The fee of the keeper of the castle, which was allowed by the king to the sheriff [in his accompt] yearly, was twenty pounds.‖

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* *Pat.* 1 Hen VII. *pars* 2.

† *Pat.* 2 Hen. VII. (*alias*, the eleventh of October, 1 Hen. VII. pt. 3, *query*.)

‡ *Compot. Camer.* 5 Hen. VII.

§ *Dugd. Bar.* ii., p. 306, *ex Pat.* 3 Hen. VIII. p. 3, and 7 Hen. VIII. p. 3.

¶ *Pat.* 4 *Jac. I.* P. L. N. N.

‖ *Claus.* 5 Ric. II. *m.* 35, (*ex Rot. Scaccar.*)

The fee of the constable of the castle, twenty-three pounds eight shillings.*

In the fourth of Edward the fourth it was six pounds thirteen shillings and fourpence.—"*Item.* Received of the under-sheriff of Norfolk, for my master's fee for constabylsheppe of Norwich, six pounds thirteen shillings and fourpence."†

An inquest was taken, the sixth of Richard the second, concerning the fees due to the constable hereof.‡

And in a list of the several officers of the king's courts, customs, &c. castles, &c. by Captain Lazarus Haward, 1660, is noted:—

	£.	s	d.
Constable of the castle of Norwich.—Fee ...	13	6	8
Keeper thereof.—Fee	6	13	4

* P.L.N.N.

† *Comp. Joh. Braine, Servient. Dni. Joh. Howard, mil.* P.L.N.N.

‡ *Inquis.* 6 Rich. II. *No.* .....

FINIS.

CHARLES SLOMAN, PRINTER,
GREAT YARMOUTH.

BIBLIOTHECA
REGIA
MONACENSIS.

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